

PERSONAL

The response of the universities to the Swinerton-Dyer document, "Development of a strategy for Higher Education into the 1990s" is of the greatest importance not only to the universities themselves but also, obviously, to the schools. As everyone knows, the document amounts to a demand for more "good" science students and a proportional cut-down on the arts and social sciences.

Martin Milligan recently wrote cogently and modestly about a collective response from some of the universities (TES April 13). It was modest because the action started in Leeds, where he is dean of the faculty of arts, and Sir Edward Parkes is the new vice-chancellor, and Swinerton-Dyer's predecessor at the UGC.

There is growing evidence for what was, in any case, pretty well established rumour that Sir Peter Swinerton-Dyer (or Spin-Dyer, as he is familiarly known), though a willing horse, and eager to take on any task on offer, and though a distinguished mathematician, has a strong element of Philistine blood in his veins. Of course, I mean professionally. It may well be that in private life, Sir Peter revels in opera, reads poetry aloud to

his wife, plays the viola da gamba and collects water colours. But these tastes seem to have no relevance to his public views. In this respect, he differs from his predecessor.

It was Sir Peter who cast such doubt on the value of SSRC-funded research that, for a time, it looked as if the Council might be abolished altogether. In the event, the Council was vindicated, and Sir Keith was content with a mere change of name to something now totally misleading. But at that time it became clear Sir Peter didn't know very much about the social sciences; and especially that he couldn't see why people undertaking research in these fields had to work so much by themselves, not in teams, like proper scientists. If he complained about the social sciences on these grounds, the arts would have seemed to him even more unprofessional and self-indulgent.

We must not underestimate the effect that someone can have who, while professionally despising the arts, occupies a position of considerable power in the world of education. That the nature of this power has changed makes things worse. The UGC used to be thought of as a go-between, de-



Mary Warnock

signed to prevent Government from exercising too much power over the universities - it being recognized that all Governments might find this a temptation. Now, however, in the "Development" document Sir P. asks universities to say "how, and how fast"

they can achieve a "shift towards technological, scientific, and engineering courses and towards other vocationally relevant forms of study" which the Secretary of State is "anxious to see". No such request ought ever to have come from the UGC. Nor would it ever have been made, I fancy, until now.

But it is not profitable to bemoan the politicization of the UGC, nor the diminished autonomy of the universities. It is time to think about the education system as a whole, which is, after all, necessarily heavily dependent on Government funding. The question to be raised is precisely that raised by Martin Milligan and by those universities who sent in their collaborative response to the document. Is the demand for relevance, ten years ago the hall-mark of the lunatic left among students, to become a demand to be heeded by universities and by schools?

I have said it before, but I will unashamedly say it again: it is essential that schools, universities and other institutions of higher education should work together to resist the present trend towards channelling more and more able students into technology. Of course, those students who want to

study technology should be encouraged to do so, but not necessarily at either school or university. I do not believe that up-to-date technology can best be taught at either kind of institution.

Both schools and universities must be concerned primarily with teaching a kind of grammar, a grasp of subjects, in a variety of different situations, to meet a variety of different and unforeseen demands. Such understanding goes with the general as well as the particular; with the discipline of the arts (the study of meanings, of logic, of translation from one language to another) as well as of the sciences, and with speculation on the nature of the sciences as well as with the latest practical applications of techniques.

There is no hope of stemming the tide of the new philistinism unless schools and universities together determine how to resist the pressure. It is excellent news that the universities are beginning to cooperate one with another. What is now required as a matter of urgency is collaboration between tertiary and secondary education, to achieve a joint stiffening of resolve.

BLACKPOOL DIARY

Off to the Tower with pro-Soviets

The Communist Party no longer has the influence in the National Union of Teachers that it once had. Nevertheless there seem to be plenty of CP teachers in Blackpool this week exchanging distinctly uncomradely looks and telling each other how interesting the view is if you lean well over the railings at the top of the Tower.

The reason is a good old-fashioned putch in the CP's education set-up. Six members of the party's key teacher advisory panel have been ousted and one of them, Ian Gunn, the former head of Stoke Newington primary school in London who has been on the panel since 1948, has also been removed from the editorship of the CP's paper *Education Today and Tomorrow* which he has run for 27 years. (He has wasted no time in starting a new paper *Education for Tomorrow*. Both papers, looking remarkably similar, were on sale at conference.)

That, in simple terms, is what has happened. But does the CP operate in simple terms? My Mr. Gunn heard through the grapevine that his services were no longer required, and as a nod

is as good as a wink in the party, he has not even needed to verify the situation, and has received no verbal or written communication officially informing him of his exile.

Those who know about these things say that the dispute tearing through the CP is between the new Euro Communist leadership and the old-style pro-Soviet element.

"I do have the old-fashioned class approach" Mr Gunn readily admits, "and also an international class approach. Pro-Soviet is a fair description."

Former NUT president Max Morris, who founded *Education Today and Tomorrow* in the 1940s, tells me that this is "the dead hand of bureaucracy acting against those members who have done more to build the influence of the CP in education than anyone else. They have been treated disgracefully."

Wise, Mr Morris has long since left the CP for the harmonious and peaceful pastures of the Labour Party in London and is still busy blocking the application of Tariq Ali to join his local branch.



Bernard Regan and Bob Richardson: in opposing corners.

Seconds out...

One of those life-changing moments when I began to think quite differently of my elders and betters came at a conference of the Society of Education Officers some years ago. I was seated at a formal dinner alongside eminent chief and deputy education officers and found them deep in earnest conversation. I listened in, hoping to discover something about the mechanisms of the rate support grant, only to

discover to my shock that they were organizing a swopstake on how long the guest speaker (the late Lord Boyle) would speak for. It quite endeared me to the species.

Anxious to make a bob or two myself, I organized a swopstake this week on how long it would be before the NUT delegation from inner London fell out in public. Unfortunately, all the bets were void as the punters had been speculating in terms of hours or even days. In fact it was about three-and-a-half minutes after the start of the first debate that Mr Bob Richardson, union junior vice-president, accused his executive and inner London colleague Bernard Regan of

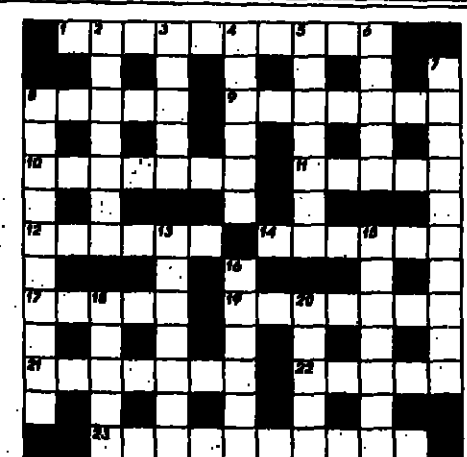
voting one way on the executive and speaking another way on the conference floor.

Six minutes later Richard Rice, the revolutionary socialist general secretary of the Inner London Teachers' Association, said that all those who ruled out industrial action affecting exams (namely R. Richardson) were supporting a "scab charter".

Mr Richardson becomes NUT president in two years' time. Quite how he and the leadership of the ILTA hit off then, will be one of the most interesting aspects of the 1986 conference.

David Lister

No 149 CROSSWORD by Rufus



- Across**
- 1 Sir, I'm involved with opera (10)
 - 2 Fight to protect one's property (5)
 - 3 When students make merry music (3-4)
 - 4 Object when put into torn clothing (7)
 - 5 I'll be surrounded by the French here (5)
 - 6 Game won by the over-favourite (6)
 - 7 Politician seen in an auction for example (6)
 - 8 A girl with good eyes will attract a lot of them (5)
 - 9 Country with a craze to follow Rugby Union (7)
 - 10 Take over and do a good job (7)
 - 11 Is involved in one dreadful row (5)
 - 12 I may put one off Russian fish (3, 7)
 - 13 Large house no man is prepared to obtain (7)
- Down**
- 1 Sir, I'm involved with opera (10)
 - 2 Fight to protect one's property (5)
 - 3 When students make merry music (3-4)
 - 4 Object when put into torn clothing (7)
 - 5 I'll be surrounded by the French here (5)
 - 6 Game won by the over-favourite (6)
 - 7 Politician seen in an auction for example (6)
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 - 10 Take over and do a good job (7)
 - 11 Is involved in one dreadful row (5)
 - 12 I may put one off Russian fish (3, 7)
 - 13 Large house no man is prepared to obtain (7)

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Giles lifts his profile

Giles Radice, shadow education spokesman, may have been studying TES surveys on how teachers vote. If so, he will have discovered to his chagrin that the profession retains considerable affection for Mrs Thatcher.

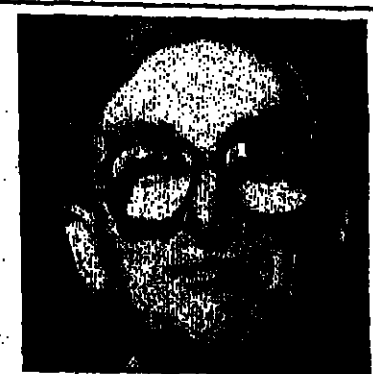
In a bid to change all this he came to Blackpool to address a fringe meeting on "why teachers should vote Labour". Alongside him were Max Morris and Frances Morrell - a good strategy as this gave the audience at least three versions of the Labour Party that they could vote for. Mr Radice seems to be making some headway in his avowed quest to raise the status of education in the party. One of the few inner party disagreements that did not surface publicly at the last election was the refusal of headquarters to give one single press conference on education in its three-week campaign. A furious Neil Kinnock had to hire an ILEA school for a morning to give his own.

Right now it is Mr Kinnock who is about to receive representations from party stalwarts who want to know what has happened to the departing NEC education sub-committee. It has not met since the election, and even the proposed new slumped-down campaigning committee does not seem to have met yet.

Antique chair

Like Banquo's ghost, an invisible spectre dominated much of this week's debates. It was the shadowy figure of Philip Merridale, retired antiques dealer. I refer to him thus, because this was the description always used by conference speakers, despite his more relevant attributes - leader of the employers' side in the pay negotiations and chairman of the Association of County Councils education committee.

His presence was most frequently summoned up by speakers who were losing the audience's attention. If a speech was boring - be it on pay, superannuation or maternity leave - there was a simple remedy. Mention P. Merridale, retired antiques dealer, and



have them rolling in the aisles. There is clearly some sort of teachers' joke here, a brand of humour one can only appreciate after years in the staffroom. But I grieve that conference, no longer allowed to be racist or sexist, has become antiquist.

Winters abroad

The NUT chose a strange way to celebrate its first Welsh president for six years. It invited the chairman of the Welsh Joint Education Committee to attend conference - as a foreign delegate.

That invitation must have been sent out by the same person who typed the conference motion calling for a work-

ing party "compramisating four members of the executive". But neither of these is my favourite Hamilton House boob. That prize goes to the organizer of the trip for outgoing president Don Winters to a recent conference in Norway. He was instructed to come from his Newcastle home to London by train, stay overnight in a hotel, rise at 5 am to get another train to Gatwick airport, and then take his flight. This he did. He even had the bonus of a couple of hours in his favourite city when the plane made its one scheduled stop in Newcastle.

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Pressure mounts for O levels to stay - in 'harmony' with CSE

16-plus losing ground as decision day approaches for Sir Keith

by David Lister and Nick Wood

Sir Keith Joseph is coming under intense pressure to retain O levels and CSEs and to abandon plans for an integrated 16-plus examination.

Much of the pressure is coming from senior Conservatives, anxious that O levels should not disappear; but there is also increasing anxiety from the universities over the proposed new examination.

There is a widespread belief that Sir Keith, Secretary of State for Education and Science - due to announce his decision by the end of next month - will surprise the educational world by turning down the long cherished idea of a common exam.

He has long referred to two options - merging O levels and CSEs, or "harmonizing" the dual system which would mean, keeping the separate exams but having much closer cooperation between the boards on the syllabuses. There would also have to be a simplified grading system applicable to the two exams.

It is now clear that Sir Keith, who has not yet made up his mind, has shifted his position over the last year, and "harmonization" has become the front runner.

The universities' worries emerged at top level private meeting between the secretaries of the GCE boards and the executive committee of the Standing Conference on University Entrance.

University representatives at the meeting emphasized that it was important to ensure that the syllabuses and examinations at 16-plus provided a sound foundation for A level candidates who would eventually be seeking entry to higher education. They added that it was not widely realized how much reliance was placed on O level results by university departments in selection procedures.

Senior Tory backbenchers have

made it clear to Sir Keith that they want O levels to be retained, although they are agreeable to a general "spring cleaning" of the syllabuses and exams.

Whichever option Sir Keith decides on, he is determined not to lose sight of grade-related criteria as outlined in his Sheffield speech in January. It is equally certain that the criteria that the examining boards have been drawing up for the planned 16-plus syllabuses will not be lost and will influence O level and CSE syllabuses if those are retained.

One senior Conservative close to the party's thinking on education policy said there was a substantial section of backbench opinion opposed to the 16-plus.

But the Tory-dominated Association of County Councils backs the new exam.

Observers say the long debate about the 16-plus is now moving out of the educational and into the political arena. They expect the final decision to be taken at Cabinet level and point out that, given her interest in education and her political affinity with Sir Keith, Mrs Thatcher is likely to be directly involved.

Next week, Sir Keith and Mr Bob Dunn, the minister responsible for schools, are due to attend a private meeting of the Conservative backbench education committee to answer questions on the new exam.

They are likely to face an audience uneasy at the prospect of change and fearful that scrapping O levels could provoke an angry response from parents and employers in their constituencies.

One senior Conservative said that many backbenchers viewed O level as a "tried and trusted horse" commanding public confidence. They wondered whether it was wise to "fiddle with it".



Teething troubles: When Malcolm John, geography teacher at Burgate county secondary school in Fordingbridge, Hampshire, was cast as Dracula in the school's first musical production, he searched the county for a pair of fangs. Finally he went to a dentist for his clip-on choppers. Now he looks set to put the bite on Kalle Spratt, a 13-year-old pupil.

Race policy architect loses seat in Bradford

by Diane Spencer

Peter Gilmour, one of the main architects of Bradford's controversial race relations policy, lost his seat to Labour in last week's local elections - the only Conservative sitting member to be defeated.

The former education committee chairman said this week that his defeat had "set us back about five years in terms of getting a fair deal for ethnic minorities out of the education system. Not necessarily in Bradford, but in other parts of the country that looked to us for a lead."

Mr Gilmour admitted that some of his race policies had upset some of his

constituents: the halal meat for Asian school children, for example; but he was quick to point out that his seat was marginal.

He had won with 96 votes last time and 93 before that in his ward of Keighley North. Last week he failed to get in by 338 votes. But he is unlikely to remain outside politics for long. Last Thursday night, two of his Conservative colleagues offered to resign there and then, and let him stand instead, he said.

Then he added, philosophically, "You aren't a proper politician until you have lost an election."

Mr Gilmour has been a member of the council for eight years and chairman of the education committee for two. His successor is Mr Eric Pickles, former chairman of the social services committee and chairman of the race relations advisory committee.

One of the reasons for his defeat, he thought, was the lack of support from the 20 per cent Asian population in Keighley North, despite promises of support for the Tories from the local mosque.

As a whole, the Tories took two seats from Labour and are the biggest single party, but will have to rely on Liberal support to retain the chair on council committees.

Local election round-up page 5

Pay strikes could go on until autumn

by Richard Garner

Britain's two biggest teachers' unions are prepared to take industrial action well into the autumn term in a bid to persuade employers to increase their 4.5 per cent pay offer.

Leaders of the National Union of Teachers, whose one-day national strike on Wednesday closed thousands of schools, meet today to consider the results of a ballot on the possibility of extended strike action. Further strikes are expected to be called in about two weeks' time.

Meetings up and down the country on Wednesday showed that a massive majority of NUT members were in favour of balloting on further extended strike action. In Newcastle, only 26 out of 3,000 teachers voted against it, in Reading only two out of 1,000 teachers voted against it.

Meanwhile Mrs Thatcher told the Commons that children could be damaged for life by the teachers' industrial action. The Prime Minister said during Question Time on Tuesday: "I think it is quite wrong for teachers to take action that hampers the education of their pupils. It could damage them for life and I am glad that many teachers would not dream of going on strike or refusing to carry out their duties in that way."

Mr Doug McAvoy, NUT acting general secretary, said there was no need for the union to "stampede into

Pay dispute round-up, 3

disruptive action" since its ban on lunchtime supervision and refusal to cover for absent colleagues was already biting. He added: "Action will continue for the rest of this term and into next term - if necessary."

The NUT had withdrawn £750,000 of its strike fund - which had been invested - to meet the day-to-day costs of paying striking teachers their wages.

"I've no doubt action will build up steadily and we will move towards selective strike action in chosen areas - perhaps rolling from one group of schools to another or rolling from one area to another."

Mr Nigel de Gruchy, deputy general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said: "We're digging in for a long battle. We don't believe we will change the employers' minds - especially the Association of County Councils' - overnight. But we're determined."

Meanwhile, it became clear this week that examination candidates are likely to face disruption as a result of the action already being taken in the classroom.

Mr McAvoy also gave a warning that if the employers took a hard line the union would reserve the right to remove safeguards covering pupils taking examinations.

Despite the build-up of industrial action the employers were repeating that they could not afford any more than 4.5 per cent - but indicating they were prepared to discuss the distribution of that sum.

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Notice to quit

Twelve colleges of higher education are under threat this week

Profile

Philip Merridale - the man the teachers love to hate

17-plus proposals

What the schools will need to offer and to whom

Platform

Doug McAvoy replies to claims that the NUT has lost power and influence

Pestalozzi

The children's village in Sussex where the brightest hopes of developing nations get an all-round education of 'hand, heart and head'

Exam nerves

Can schools ease the stress on candidates?

Arts/Books

Sir Douglas Wess, former Joint Head of the Home Civil Service, on privacy and secrecy, whistleblowing and leaking - with special reference to Sarah Thaddeus (pictured). Television: *Sadly, The Monte d'Arthor, Superstars and Marathon*. Tessa Blackstone reviews Peter Scott's *The Crisis of the University*.

Resources/Media

Gillian Klein visits the Commonwealth Institute's "Africa, Africa" exhibition. Bob Catterall reviews *Update USA*, a new educational television series.

EXTRA

Mathematics: Responses to Cockcroft from primary to polytechnic including multicultural issues, assessment, problem solving, organization and methodology.



Gilmour: set us back five years



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COMMENT

A chance for esteem at 17-plus

A few weeks ago in *The TES*, Max Morris pointed out the apparent contrast between Sir Keith Joseph's painstaking approach to the 16-plus and his more casual attitude to the 17-plus, the Certificate of Pre Vocational Education.

This week there was a further indication of the position the CPVE occupies in the Secretary of State's priorities. At the press conference called to launch the consultative document outlining the way the CPVE is to be developed, Sir Keith confessed he had not yet read the 60-page booklet and when asked questions was reduced to reading from the brief prepared by officials. (School to Work, page 14).

For the Education Secretary, who has in the past adopted apparently earnest postures over the need to incorporate more practical, technical and vocational competencies in education at every stage, this was in unfortunate contrast to his animated performance the week before when he officiated at the launch of another new sixth-form qualification apparently closer to his heart, the severely academic AS levels.

Three years ago the Further Education Unit warned of the dangers of recreating the tripartite education system at this level: "There is the danger that vocational preparation will come to be regarded as the tertiary modern sector of education and training - lacking in esteem, facilities and currency." The Joint Board responsible for the consultative document hopes the CPVE will have sufficient esteem, and facilities to attract 100,000 entrants a year.

The hope is that the vocational focus of the new 17-plus and the activity-based learning-by-doing courses will



provide intrinsic motivation for young people across a wide range of ability - even those capable of doing A levels. Provision is to be made to enable the able sixth formers embarking on the CPVE to undertake "additional studies", including O and A levels, but with the proviso that such studies must be an integral part of the pre-vocational studies; an example given mentions A level business studies. It is hard to see in this an alternative route to higher education.

All this, of course, increases the sixth-form dilemmas of schools and students, particularly if the personal enthusiasm so far shown by the Education Secretary is to be reflected in the additional resources likely to be made available for such a radical change of emphasis in sixth form work. The change for many teachers from largely single-subject, academic teaching to integrated practical and vocationally oriented work will clearly have considerable curriculum development, in-service training, staffing and capital spending implications.

That 20,000 or more of the students on the pathfinding interim courses are in schools shows that some of this can be achieved with existing plant, or by linking up with local colleges to share workshops. It also shows it can be achieved by some of the existing teachers, albeit those with sufficient goodwill and enthusiasm to volunteer



and the initial energy to sustain punishing workloads. It remains to be seen if other sixth-forms will be as able and willing. For in spite of the rhetoric surrounding the vaulted standards to be expected of the new AS level, it is inevitable that those standards will to some extent be set by the students who enter for it. And some schools may well be tempted to devote their energies to this, using it as a staging post to A level for weaker A level candidates or as a fall back position, both to achieve viable class sizes and to give their students what many will regard as qualifications of proven worth.

When cupboards are bare

Last week's mini-election offered few direct messages for education policy makers, but the results have implications worth teasing out.

The first message may lie in the way in which the fairly indecisive swing again the Government differed as between the local elections and the by-elections. At the parliamentary level, we had the now-familiar pattern of a protest vote putting the Alliance

into second place, but the town hall swing was more decisively towards Labour (page 6).

In practice, this did not add up to a very extensive list of district councils switching control, but the modest swing did suggest an electorate more explicitly dissatisfied with Government performance on local issues.

Dominant among these issues, of course, is the inexorable shift of emphasis towards central control of local authority performance, both by financial means and now by legislation. Although the metropolitan counties and the GLC were not up for election - or dissolution - last week, their future hung over the polling booths.

So inevitably did rate-capping, which will without a doubt have a serious impact on education spending in many more local education authorities than those singled out for special treatment. The Education Secretary may care to couple last week's local vote with the results of *The Observer's* latest opinion poll finding, which had the Government's performance on education policy jostling for bottom place with health service policy.

No details were provided of the reasons for this dissatisfaction, but it would be hard to discount the effects on parents of the constant battering of cuts in the schools - affecting books, teacher numbers, school dinners, provision for music and swimming, and teachers' pay. On this last item, it is significant that there still seems to be a groundswell of parental support for the teachers' case, in spite of the disruption of industrial action.

And on school dinners, support for the Birmingham dinner ladies still threatened with cuts in spite of their recent High Court victory has even been quoted as one of the decisive factors in the Conservative defeat. The Birmingham Tories went to the electorate on their good housekeeping re-

cord, but a majority of the vote apparently decided that they had the school cupboard a little too bare. Sir Keith Joseph listening?

Tiptoe round the minefield

HM Inspectorate describes its little report on race relations in school (page 6) as "properly tentative". "Astonishingly tentative" would be a better phrase. An outsider, reading the document, would think that the spend their time collecting ambivalent opinions on sensitive topics, not then getting into schools to evaluate what is happening.

There are, by now, a fair number of schools and local authorities that have taken positive steps to try to eliminate unconscious racial discrimination in curriculum, teaching methods, assessment of pupils, and to counter racist attitudes that pupils bring from the outside world. An investigation by HMI of what they have achieved, and the difficulties they have encountered, might have been valuable.

Such an assessment might well be ended with much the same, perhaps sensible, policy guidelines that HMI lists in this document - that schools should deal openly with racial incidents; evolve a "whole school" policy; examine their curriculum for racial bias; appoint more staff, particularly senior staff, from ethnic minority groups; and so on. But the recommendations would have carried more punch if they had followed an assessment of practice in schools and authorities that have dealt directly with the explosive territory, rather than a tiptoe round the edge of a minefield.

One demand from teachers came out of HMI's discussions was an authoritative statement from the Government, calling on local authorities to implement a policy on racial discrimination. For many years now the government has said it was waiting for the ill-starred Rampton committee, then for its apparently unanimous Swann successor. Swann reports this summer, and there will no longer be an excuse for inaction.

no comment

"Dear Sir, I wish to inform you that Richard will be leaving school at Easter, but he will be coming back for lessons and exams".

From a parent's letter to a school in Washington, Tyne and Wear.

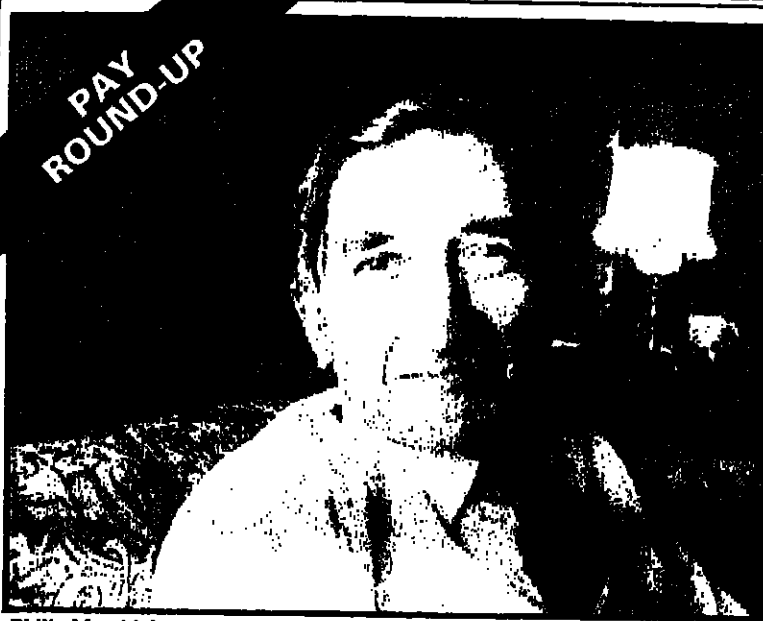
financial difficulties of many authorities, could not in equity accept the offer for teachers at least, arbitration longer exists as a way in which disputes, whatever their merits, may be independently adjudicated.

Philip Merridale has argued forcefully that the L.E.A.s cannot pay more than they have belatedly offered. If he is confident of the intellectual coherence of his argument, it will be none of his force if he submits it to an arbitral scrutiny, and that is now the honourable thing for him and his colleagues to do. Stubbornly to refuse will aggravate further the collapse of morale and resulting frustration which I believe to be the origin of a worrying and damaging dispute.

I do not underestimate for a moment the real dilemma the management panel confronts, nor do I question the integrity of education committee members who, voluntarily or not, have devoted much time and energy to a service to which they are the main, deeply committed. The fact has come for them to demonstrate courage which has so far been evaded, and to take a new initiative even at the expense of losing a face. And it must be their initiative and the teachers have no more face to lose.

Peter Smith

Peter Smith is deputy general secretary of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers.



Philip Merridale... an accountant's educationist.

Alfred's uncrowned heir goes to battle

Mike Durham meets the 'hard man' leading the Burnham pay talks.

Beneath the provincial charm of ancient Winchester beats a pulse of history. It was here, a thousand years ago, that King Alfred made his capital of Wessex in his stand against the Danes.

Today Winchester's Victorian castle, home of Hampshire local education authority, is the campaign headquarters of another leader of men - the uncrowned king of the shire county education authorities, Philip Merridale.

Mr Merridale is chairman of the Association of County Councils' education committee and leader of the L.E.A. side in the Burnham pay negotiations. The sound of battle still rings out, not with marauding Vikings but with the thin corduroy line of the teaching unions.

Relaxed and affable this week in his rural outpost, Mr Merridale looked as if he was ready for a long siege. Under a genial and conciliatory exterior lurks a tough negotiator whose single-mindedness and obstinacy are, in some quarters, legendary.

Mr Merridale, aged 57, became leader of the management side a year ago, 20 years after entering local government and 10 years after first serving on Burnham as a county representative.

Hampshire-born, the son of a sailor, Mr Merridale arrived in public life as an independent councillor on the old Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council in 1964.

"The locals, friends and neighbours, wanted someone to plead their cause. Local government really consists of being asked to do things", said Mr Merridale. His main concerns were pressing matters of tap water and main drainage.

Nine years later local Conservatives asked him to stand for Hampshire County Council. Mr Merridale threw his lot in with the Tory squires and won.

Within two years he was chairman of the biggest local education authority outside London - and has remained so for the best part of a decade. "I didn't ask to be here. People have always told me what they would like me to do."

But with three children, all of whom went to county schools, Mr Merridale was a consumer as well as an architect of educational services.

Mr Merridale now devotes his life to politics. Until three years ago he and his wife, Anne, ran an antique shop in home town, Antiquesbridge.

Follow Hampshire Tories are apt to see him as a dangerous "wet". "He's no knight of the shires", said a friend. "He's only the sort of man you'd expect to meet in a second class railway carriage, with his sandwich and rolled umbrella."

Classes hit in build-up to NUT's one-day strike

by Richard Garner

Industrial action by teachers over their pay claim led to thousands of children missing lessons or being sent out of school at lunchtime, even before Wednesday's one-day strike by members of the National Union of Teachers.

The ban on lunchtime supervision by all three of the biggest teacher unions - the NUT, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, the Assistant Masters' and Mistresses' Association - has meant that many schools in rural parts of the country have been forced to shut down at lunchtime because it has been impossible to arrange transport to "bus" children to and from school twice a day.

In addition, schools in several parts of the country - including Inner London and East Sussex - have switched to operating a "Continental-style" day with a prolonged morning session after which children are sent home for the day.

An increasing number of children are also being sent home from lessons as a result of a ban on covering for absent colleagues by both the NUT and the NAS/UMT. The AMMA is also balloting its members on whether they would be prepared to introduce this sanction.

This action prompted moves by two authorities - Cambridgeshire and Cumbria - to threaten to dock the pay of teachers who refused to step in for absent colleagues.

After negotiations with teachers' leaders, Cumbria withdrew its threat but Cambridgeshire has told its headteachers to supply the authority with the names of teachers who refuse to comply with a "reasonable request" to cover.

A spokesman for the authority stressed that its action did not include teachers refusing to cover for colleagues who were on strike. "We are not asking them to strike-break - merely to provide cover in the normal way," he said.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said that his members had



Dining alone... pupils at Henry Thornton school, south London eat lunch without supervision.

been advised that it was a legitimate request from a L.E.A. to ask for the names of members of its staff who refused to cover or went out on strike. "We are not responsible for the use they make of those names," he said.

However, Mr Doug McAvoy, acting general secretary of the NUT, warned that teachers would step up their "no cover" action if the Conservative-controlled authority went ahead with its threat.

NUT members are currently providing cover in some circumstances - for instance, where the pupils threatened with being sent home if cover is not provided are receiving instructions for examinations.

Meanwhile, other authorities have tried to maintain a free school meals service - which they are bound by law to provide - during the dispute. Several have taken extra staff to cope.

Another dispute flared up in Conservative-controlled Merton when the L.E.A. asked heads to give pupils a letter for their parents outlining the reasons for the dispute.

Mr Hart said he was urging his members to persuade the authority to send the letter out through its own internal mail system rather than use the school mail system.

He claimed that the letter supported the management view and said that if headteachers bowed to this pressure to send out such a letter, they would inevitably face similar demands from teacher unions.

The letter, which is signed by Mr Alan Jones, the chairman of the education committee, points out that Scottish teachers have already accepted the same deal that their counterparts in England and Wales have been offered - and that college lecturers are being recommended to accept a similar deal.

Mr Richard Davies, the director of Education, said the letter had been sent out by the education committee chairman and denied that it "took sides". He said it talked about the background to the dispute and the industrial action, although he acknowledged it "expressed some surprise" that the teachers had not been able to settle for 4.5 per cent.

Both the major teachers' unions reported that their industrial action had met with an "overwhelming" response. The NUT said its action had led to 50 schools in Wakefield closing at lunchtime and 30 schools being affected in Bradford.

The NAS/UMT has spread the dispute to Northern Ireland - where pay talks are following a line similar to those in the Burnham committee, which negotiates on behalf of teachers in England and Wales.

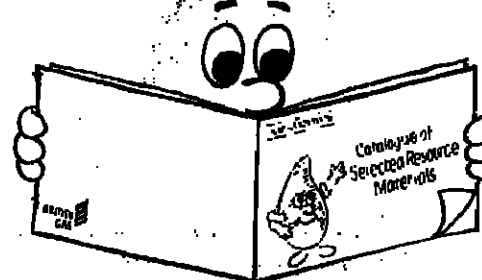
In addition, teachers belonging to the NAS/UMT in two schools in East Sussex - where the Government's new Technical and Vocational Educational Initiative is due to be introduced in September - have decided to boycott a series of meetings connected with its introduction.

All six of the teacher unions - NUT, AMMA, NAS/UMT, NAHT, the Secondary Heads' Association and the Professional Association - have been unanimous in rejecting the authorities' 4.5 per cent pay offer and requesting arbitration.

Both the headteachers' organizations have told their members to do nothing to undermine the effectiveness of the teachers' action.

In addition, Mr McAvoy said that few of the country's 28,000 schools remained unaffected by his union's one-day strike call on Wednesday - and predicted further extended strike action in about a fortnight's time in selected areas of the country.

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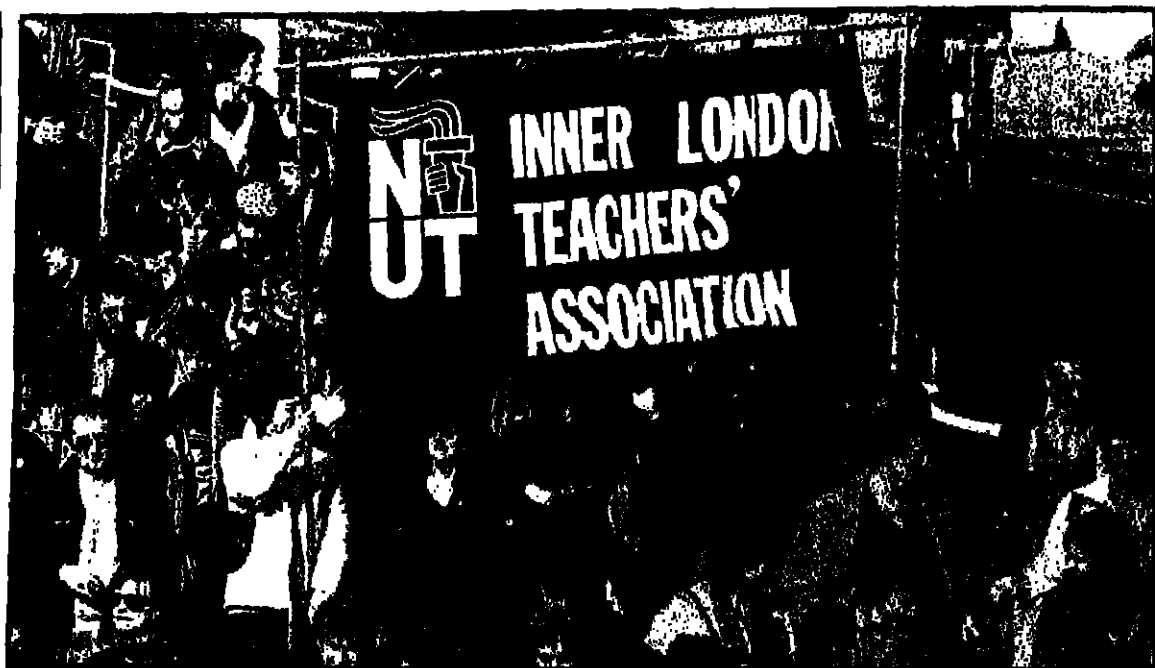
Doug McAvoy, deputy general secretary of the NUT, responds to a recent Platform article in which Christopher Price asserted that the union's influence had disintegrated in recent years

Despite the belief of some MPs to the contrary, the House of Commons is not the best place from which to keep in touch with what is happening in the world. Ex-members, at least initially, can have an even harder time coming to grips with reality. Their lives have been disrupted by electoral rejection—they have lost the appearance of having power and are forced to search for a new role. If they find one linked to their special area of concern they cast around for a scapegoat on whom to blame the ills affecting that particular interest. Most vulnerable in such circumstances seem to be their allies, their friends of former more glorious days.

Chris Price's recent article on the National Union of Teachers ("The wounded carthorse", TES, April 20) is a case in point. As a long-standing friend of the education service, he was forced to become somewhat distanced from it in his elevated position as Chairman of the Education Select Committee in the last Parliament. The reports of the Committee demonstrated the balancing act he was having to do as a minority party chairman. To carry Conservative members with him and keep the respect of his own party he had to bend and flex. He could not insist that facts overrode politics or that the interests of the education service rather than the pragmatism of politics should be paramount.

He now seems to find it necessary to select or interpret his evidence to fit his decision. A decision determined in advance of any evidence being analysed. Chris Price seems to expect the NUT to have the power and influence that no trade union or professional association in the world has. Having discovered it is not omnipotent, he criticizes the NUT for not filling the unrealistic role which he has set for it. That criticism and blame which he attributes to the NUT is invalid.

Ever since education became a party political issue in the mid-1960s, the partnership which had sustained the service was threatened. The powerful position of the education lobby at local level was questioned, as was the national vehicle for education expression. That national vehicle, the Association of Education Committees, crossed party political boundaries and provided a very strong education lobby. It was an obvious partner for the NUT and the two bodies, as allies, were able to protect and develop the



The union deserves congratulations for its defence of the education service.

Don't underestimate the carthorse's power

education service without being compromised or constrained by party political differences.

When local government was reorganized in 1973-4 both Labour and Conservative politicians at national and local level decided to use that reorganization as a means of limiting the impact of the education lobby. At national level this meant the death of the AEC and, therefore, the removal of the one body speaking for education on behalf of local government. Its replacement, the Council of Local Education Authorities, was not intended as more than a cosmetic gesture. Education was to be an issue for the metropolitan and the county council associations and, therefore, under

party political control. How can the NUT be blamed for the death of the AEC? It was partly the strong partnership of the two organizations that had created the opposition. Faced with that "cross-party" decision it is impossible to see how the NUT could have protected the AEC.

The NUT was, however, powerful enough at that time to protect the structure at local level. Its influence ensured the continued statutory requirement for a chief education officer, an education committee and the representation of teachers on those committees. The impact of that success is not felt centrally, it is felt locally and its importance continues.

The fact is clearly evident in the recent success of the union in preventing the reintroduction of selection for secondary education. Despite the shift to the centre of control of education which this Government is determined on, such decisions are still taken locally. Sir Keith Joseph may want to reintroduce selection, but the union, through its strength locally, has prevented a reversion to an outmoded and divisive system of education. Successes such as this are not built on disunity in the profession. For many years the union has strived for unity among teachers and their associations despite any suggestion to the contrary. Only the NUT has declared a commitment to professional unity and a willingness and desire to seek to establish such a unified profession. But the reality of the existence of other organizations and their own internal problems cannot be ignored. Again it is difficult to see what more the union could have done and totally unjustified to criticize the union for the lack of unity that may prevail.

Destruction of the Schools Council. Mr Price blames on that disunity, but he is wrong. It was killed off because being representative of working teachers through their professional associations it persistently embarrassed the Government. It could not be relied on to toe the Government line yet it had an "official" status. Sir Keith could not tolerate such insurrection. Instead he has now set up two bodies in the hope they will do his bidding. He expects obedience because they are handpicked for the job. If the individuals do not keep in line they can be removed. Dissent will not be permitted under this new central control.

That determination to be independent which led to the demise of the Schools Council could also bring about the destruction of the Assessment of Performance Unit. It too has resisted Government dictate and stuck by what it believes to be right for the future development of education. If the numbers game—the fight to ensure majority representation generally for teachers and particularly for the majority professional association of teachers—had any part in the death of the Schools Council, then so be it. The NUT, as the major teacher union, cannot be criticized for insisting that the majority is given its rightful representation. No union, or for that matter political party, accepts a minority role if it has a majority status. Were it otherwise, democracy would be stood on its head—a position for which Chris Price could surely never wish except for the occasional longing when he was in opposition.

Disunity did not prevent the establishment of a Teaching Council either. It was the determination of the union to ensure that any professional body would not be dominated by teachers and would not be controlled by the Secretary of State.

The General Medical Council, not accept that the Health Secretary should police it or that non-doctors should have a majority say in deliberations. Likewise for teachers. To blame the NUT is to reject the principles of representation, accountability and to ignore the attitudes of others who at that time have supported a Teaching Council—reasons and purposes which were to the advantage of the profession.

The present Government boasts its refusal to have any meaningful dialogue with the trade union movement. But its decision to reject it and close the doors to all party trade union movement cannot be eventually it will have to accept value of consultation and involvement.

When it does, the added value NUT has gained from its involvement with the TUC will once again be obvious.

Affiliation to the TUC has been beneficial. It has enabled the union to take its educational policies to a wide and varied audience and has made available to the union an expert support of value to members.

Affiliation was also an essential element of its education role. Due to the Hoth/Wilson/Cullaghan membership of the TUC provided the union with an additional area of influence. Today the TUC's education policy is greatly influenced by the NUT and there is increased awareness among trade unionists and the TUC of the importance of education. The membership has developed and the union has helped to bring increased pressure to bear on Government for the advancement in education the NUT has consistently sought.

That Mrs Thatcher's Government will not talk to the trade union movement does not diminish the educational role of the union within the TUC. It diminishes the validity of the other Government is pursuing. The last decade has certainly been one of change, but then which change is not? Chris Price has identified certain issues during that period which have affected the work and work of the union. The issues are fact.

The partnership that existed between the AEC and the NUT no longer exists because there is no AEC. There is no united professional body of teachers—had any part in the death of the Schools Council, then so be it. The NUT, as the major teacher union, cannot be criticized for insisting that the majority is given its rightful representation. No union, or for that matter political party, accepts a minority role if it has a majority status. Were it otherwise, democracy would be stood on its head—a position for which Chris Price could surely never wish except for the occasional longing when he was in opposition.

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Education chiefs in several key local authorities were this week contemplating a change in direction, following Labour gains in last week's local elections.

Labour won Birmingham from the Conservatives, and established a working majority in Dudley after seven years of Tory control. In two other major cities, Liverpool and Manchester, the Labour left strengthened its position.

In Birmingham, often regarded as a model Tory authority because of the Conservative city fathers' "good housekeeping" policy, Labour had an easy victory. Labour now has an overall majority of five.

But the incoming Labour group, while promising to end cutbacks, expand the curriculum and develop nursery education, has offered no plans to end selective schooling in the city. Schools run by the King Edward Foundation are not yet under threat.

The city's new education chairman, Mr Marwood Brown, said the Labour group was committed to comprehensive education. "But the King Edward Foundation schools have been running

Teachers should be free of the fear of someone peering over their shoulder

For many years. We don't envisage taking any immediate action to change the situation."

The foundation controls seven schools in the city. Two became independent when their grants were removed in 1976; the other five are voluntary aided grammar schools. The only way for the new Labour council to force them to abandon selective policies would be to ask the Secretary of State for permission to cease to maintain them.

Even in opposition Labour conceded that with a Tory government there was little point in making any such plan.

The Labour leaders have also promised to keep a watch on the Conservative-introduced secondary reorganization in the city, rather than disrupt Birmingham's schools by attempting a further reorganization on party lines.

The new Labour group has already promised to keep on 5,000 school meals staff at nationally-agreed wages. The dinner ladies had been threatened with the sack unless they accepted a pay cut by the Conservative administration.

Labour is also to give a reprieve to Nechells School, threatened with closure by the Conservatives, which a group of parents and teachers have been occupying in protest. "We are taking immediate steps to keep the school open," said Mr Brown. The Labour group has asked for legal advice on the issue.

Labour's takeover in Birmingham has unseated one of the hawks on the Association of Metropolitan Authorities' education committee, former Birmingham chairman Councillor Brian Meadows. He was the only Conservative on the committee who did not come out against the Government's Training for Jobs White Paper.

In Dudley, a new Labour administration promised "a change of emphasis" on education after seven years of Conservative control. Dudley is Britain's lowest-spending I.e.a.s. and both cuts and the council's enthusiastic pursuit of privatization have been keen issues there.

The election left the council deeply split, with 36 Labour seats, 33 Tory and one SDP. Labour is confident that it has a working majority, if necessary on the chairman's casting vote. A Labour mayor is expected to be elected next week.

The new education chairman, Mr David Savage, a teacher at a middle school in Sandwell, said Labour would try to "raise Dudley from the bottom of the league tables" but did not forecast dramatic change.

"We won't be able to make any sweeping changes because we are working within a Conservative budget. The main change will be one of emphasis," he said.

"My feeling is that education should not be run as a business. Teachers should be free of the fear of someone constantly peering over their shoulder."

Wind of policy shifts to the Left for key I.e.a.s

by Mike Durham

not be run as a business. Teachers should be free of the fear of someone constantly peering over their shoulder."

Under a Conservative administration Dudley privatized school cleaning and caretaking services. The council also brought in management consultants which recommended administrative cutbacks coupled with big pay rises but fixed-term contracts for its chief officers.

While Labour has no immediate plans to end privatization of school cleaning, an expansion of nursery education is under way with proposals for two new nursery schools.

The new administration is also aiming to renegotiate the contracts given to chief officers. Dudley's director of education, Mr Ron Westbury, is believed to be the only CEO on a fixed-term contract and one of Britain's best-paid at £26,250 a year.

"We are going to ask the officers to tear up the contracts signed with the Conservatives—although I realize that is not an easy thing to ask," said Mr Savage.

In Liverpool, Labour's increased majority ended the uncertainty over political control and brought nearer a head-on confrontation with the Government over Labour's illegal budget.

A political stalemate over the city's financial position was broken when Labour gained seven new seats, making it virtually certain that the "illegal budget" will be approved.

For teachers the move brings closer the prospect of their salaries not being paid by a bankrupt authority.

Liverpool's NUT spokesman, Mr Jim Ferguson, said: "We're faced with the eternal contradiction—a legal budget will make teachers redundant, an illegal budget could lead to bankruptcy and an authority unable to pay its teachers."

Mr Ferguson said the union's power to help unpaid members would be limited. "If salary cheques bounce, it will be a matter of dealing with the real hardship cases. But the NUT's funds do not stretch to covering for a bankrupt authority."

Liverpool teachers split over support for the illegal budget at a mass meeting called by the NUT last month. A delegation from the North West TUC, including teachers, is hoping to meet Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, this week in a last-ditch attempt to save the situation.

Liverpool's director of education, Mr Kenneth Antcliffe, said there were no contingency plans for running services if the minister sends in commissioners to run the city, as he has threatened to do if Labour's illegal budget is passed.

"We just don't know what might happen if an illegal budget is fixed. But if commissioners do come in we would have to find out their remit and act accordingly. Meanwhile it's a matter of wait and see."

The education office also expects to hear the outcome of consultations with Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, over Liverpool's secondary reorganization plan within the next two weeks, so that it can be implemented in September.

In Manchester a swing to the left led to speculation that the city might be following Liverpool towards a confrontation with the Government. Until last week the council's Labour group was split, with 26 councillors being refused the party whip. But since the elections the left have a clear majority in the party.

This week a delegation from Labour's National Executive Committee was visiting the city to try to reconcile the two sides. Meanwhile a new education chairman had yet to be appointed.

Mr Gordon Conquest, who is standing down after four years, said the council's education policy was unlikely to change, whoever became his successor. But there was a real possibility of left-wingers on the council provoking a confrontation with the Government.

In Coventry, a former Labour education chairman, Mr Peter Lister, narrowly avoided losing his seat after being "deselected" by the ward which he had represented for 27 years. Mr Lister was selected instead to fight a by-election in a neighbouring ward and won by 200 votes.

Liverpool teachers split over support for the illegal budget at a mass meeting called by the NUT last month. A delegation from the North West TUC, including teachers, is hoping to meet Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, this week in a last-ditch attempt to save the situation.

Inspectorate sets out race-bridge guidelines

by Diane Spencer

An eight-point guide to good race relations in schools is contained in a paper by HM Inspectorate which has been circulated only to chief education officers and colleges and departments of education.

The paper summarizes "modest and exploratory" discussions between the Inspectorate and officers, teachers and advisers in five unnamed local education authorities in the latter half of 1983.

"It is properly tentative and goes no further than the state of the art allows", say inspectors, and add: "Given how little is actually known about race relations in schools, as opposed to the rhetoric about racism in our society, the paper may be helpful to the I.e.a.s that took part and to others in continuing or beginning discussions about race relations."

They say the "good school or education authority" should ensure that: ● incidents of racial discrimination are dealt with openly; ● graffiti are removed quickly; ● racist symbols on clothes or badges are forbidden; ● an explicit statement on race relations is made by the school; ● discussions between staff, including non-teaching staff, pupils, governors and parents' representatives have led to a "whole school view"; ● there are staff, particularly senior staff, from ethnic minorities; ● careful attention has been given to the possibility of bias in curriculum content and materials; and ● the general ethos of the school supports the idea of respect for all pupils.

Inspectors found little evidence of consistent and successful practice aimed at tackling the race relations issue, although it was generally agreed that it was important.

In authorities which have already drawn up policy guidelines, advisers should work with schools to translate policy into practice, identify the most successful approaches and disseminate information about good practice.

Race relations in schools: a summary of discussions at meetings in five local education authorities. DES, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1.

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Science and FE get in-service grants boost

by Sarah Bayliss

Government funding for in-service training grants has more than doubled. For the first time grants will cover science teachers in schools and some lecturers in colleges of further education.

Details of the scheme, which were published this week, show that the value of grants is going up from £5.3m to £14m for 1984-85. According to the Department of Education and Science, up to 6,000 teachers and lecturers are expected to take up places on designated courses, compared with 3,000 last year.

The scheme aims to encourage teachers to take Government-approved courses in six subject areas, by paying the local authority 90 per cent of the cost of employing replacement staff. When Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, launched the initiative last year he described the cost of temporary cover as a major difficulty for in-service training which he wanted to overcome.

The local authority associations, which are traditionally wary of any specific funding not channelled through the rate support grant, are understood to be worried by the precedent being set by in-service training.

Though we have accepted the figure of 90 per cent, it is not a precedent, says Sir Keith Joseph, who says the scheme will help to improve the quality of the education

service are suffering very severe constraints," said Mr Peter Coles, deputy education secretary at the Association of County Councils.

A DES circular sent to all I.e.a.s. this week shows the amount of grant provisionally allocated to each under the in-service scheme. Allocations are based on the size of school age populations and on the number of 16-year-old full-time equivalent students in non-advanced further education.

The circular describes the areas of training supported by the scheme, including four which were established last year. These are: management training for heads and other senior teachers in primary and secondary schools; special education needs in ordinary schools; mathematics teaching; and pre-vocational education in schools.

The two new areas are science teaching in primary and secondary schools and vocational education taught by lecturers in further education.

The Secretary of State recognises that recent initiatives such as the Certificate of Pre-Vocational Education (CPVE) and the Youth Training Scheme (YTS) are resulting in a considerable expansion of pre-vocational education and vocational training opportunities. It is therefore essential that the education service should be able to provide the necessary support for these schemes.



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12 colleges face closure threat in NAB review

by Karen Gold and John O'Leary

The future of twelve colleges of higher education is in doubt this week after a warning that their viability is in question.

The list of 12 colleges was drawn up by the chairman's study group of the National Advisory Body as part of its investigation of diversified teacher training colleges. Each will receive an individual letter, some recommending mergers, saying that because their student numbers are in most cases around or below 500 full-time equivalent, they may not be viable.

The 12 are: Avery Hill, Bath, Charlotte Mason, West Hill, Newman, De la Salle, Westminster, Bishop Grosseteste, North Riding, West Midlands, Rolle and Hertfordshire.

Three other colleges which were considered for inclusion - Bretton Hall, Homerton and La Sainte Union - were eventually ruled out. The suggested mergers were Avery Hill with Thames Polytechnic, West Hill and Newman with each other, and Hertfordshire with Hatfield Polytechnic.

Westminster was encouraged to talk to Oxford University and Oxford Polytechnic about possible links.

Letters are also going from the NAB to the local authorities concerned, asking for their comments, and to validating bodies and the inspectorate asking for advice on the quality of work done at the colleges. The Council for National Academic Awards has already said it will not provide such advice for the exercise this year.

Mr John Bevan, secretary of the NAB, said that the exercise was intended to produce changes for implementation in 1985/86. "It is an open examination, which certainly could range anywhere from consolidating an institution's role by doing something positive to looking at mergers or closure".

More than 50 colleges and polytechnic departments were included in the review, which has had a short but stormy passage and is certain to cause further controversy when recommendations reach the NAB board. Members of the two working groups involved both gave warnings in March that the exercise was being conducted too hastily, and were asked to resign if they were not prepared to play a full part.

The NAB's teacher education group was due to be informed of the college names and the letters at the same time as the letters were sent out. The group and the chairman's study group are due to discuss the responses before going to the NAB board and committee in July.

A spokesman for the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education said that the way the diversified colleges exercise was being carried out would bring NAB into disrepute. "NATFHE has consistently opposed this exercise this year because we have said that these colleges had the Secretary of State's exercise last year before last, the NAB exercise last year, the Advisory Council on the Supply and Education of Teachers is to make recommendations on numbers next year, and the year after that there's another major NAB planning exercise." *THE S*

National radio surprise for IBA

by Gillian Macdonald

The IBA is to be given its first national radio network. Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, announced during the Second Reading of the Cable and Broadcasting Bill in the House of Commons on Tuesday.

Mr Brittan surprised many people by amending the Bill to include two new national radio networks to be set up by 1990, one for the IBA, the other for the BBC to allow Radios 1, 2, 3 and 4 their own VHF facilities.

The new national station for the IBA breaks the BBC's monopoly of national radio. Like cable, the national network could open up new areas for educational broadcasting, but these will have to compete against commercial interests.

A spokesman for the IBA would not rule out the idea of a Schools Radio service of the sort provided by the BBC, but he thought it only likely if the network was split to allow simultaneous medium wave transmission. It was more probable, he said, that current trends on local radio would be developed.

Network education programmes, like *Breadline*, *Country Crisis* and *Whose Town?* Anyways? have all encouraged the use of items on local radio. Items *Revision Line* on London's Capital Radio have received more than 10 calls a day from school children seeking advice on O and A levels.



Ripping yarn: Ben Haggarty of the West London Story Telling Unit enthralles youngsters with a tale during National Tell a Story week. Picture: Martin Meyer/BBG.

New post

Mr David Whitbread, principal assistant education officer responsible for schools in Hertfordshire, has been appointed to succeed Mr Peter Coles as deputy education secretary at the Association of County Councils.

Mr Whitbread, aged 48, who has worked for Hertfordshire for 11 years, began his local government career in Norfolk where he was senior assistant education officer for further education.

Bradford parents win school review

Education chiefs in Bradford are sending a team of advisers to review the work of Drummmond Middle School after protests from parents about alleged racist remarks by the headmaster, Mr Ray Honeyford.

Last week angry parents met Mr Richard Knight, the director of education, to hand in a 600-signature petition demanding that the head be dismissed. He promised them that a review would be carried out soon and the governors would be informed of the outcome.

Mr Knight said: "We do not seek to curtail staff freedoms. If a member of the teaching staff wishes to adopt a public stance on matters relating to his work, then our advice is that public office-holders have responsibilities as well as rights."

"If what they say affects parental confidence, it should cause them to reflect on the wisdom of such a stance. It may result in a check to see that it does not affect the provision in the school."

The controversy arose from an article written by Mr Honeyford in the right-wing *Salisbury Review*, in which he suggested that multiracial education could harm white children when they were in the minority.

Out of the 450 pupils in Drummmond Middle School about 85 per cent are of Asian origin. This week Mr Honeyford said he had no comment to make.

Rates Bill scrapes by

The Government's plans to give Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, reserve powers for rate-capping, any local authority, scraped through the Lords in the teeth of opposition this week. The Government had a majority of 10.

The controversial reserve powers section of the Rates Bill gives the Secretary of State blanket rights over any authority, providing both Houses of Parliament agree to endorse a special Order.

The right to impose specific controls on up to 20 high-spending authorities has already been passed in both Houses.

Lord Chelwood (Conservative) existing block grant arrangements made the reserve powers section unnecessary, and he claimed it undermined democracy. The section was also strongly condemned by Lord Ridley, president of the Association of County Councils.

The Rates Bill has now completed its progress through Parliament and is virtually certain to become law.

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Glue sale law step nearer

by Sarah Bayliss

Legislation which will prohibit shopkeepers from selling solvents to potential glue sniffers is expected to be in the Statute Book by Christmas.

This follows notice from Mr Harry Greenway MP in the Commons this week that he intends to present a Private Members Bill along those lines. But there is still no sign that glue sniffing itself will be made a criminal offence.

Last week, in the Commons, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, said the Government would be prepared to support a Bill which made it an offence in England and Wales for a person to sell substances to young people under the age of 16 if he knows or has reasonable grounds for believing that they are likely to be inhaled to achieve intoxication.

The passing of such a law would bring England and Wales into line with Scotland where last year two shopkeepers were successfully prosecuted for selling solvents to "glue sniffers".

The provision which has no counterpart in the rest of the United Kingdom would be prepared to support a Bill which made it an offence in England and Wales for a person to sell substances to young people under the age of 16 if he knows or has reasonable grounds for believing that they are likely to be inhaled to achieve intoxication.

Liberals urge caution on school closures

by Biddy Passmore

Local education authorities should look at long-term prospects for pupil numbers and not rush to close schools, according to a policy paper just published by the Liberal Party.

The paper, *Must Schools Close?*, by Mr Chris Bradford of the party's education panel, claims that school rolls in the year 2000 are likely to have climbed back to their present level. It says each L.E.A. should draw up a "management plan" that would help avoid closures in the short term in order to meet rising demand in the 1990s.

One element of the plan would be more opportunities for 16-plus teaching and increased day-time use of schools by the local community.

The paper recognizes that closures will sometimes be necessary, for educational as well as financial reasons. But it says decisions must be taken primarily on educational and not party political grounds, and only after full consultation on an agreed list of criteria, such as minimum disruption to pupils, teachers and the community, and opportunities for alternative community use.

The authority should set out a list of options with an analysis of the problems for consultation with the public and teaching unions, it says.

"Too often," Mr Bradford remarks, "education officers and members of the controlling political group decide what should be done and then consult the public with their minds made up. The consultation must be genuine and be seen to be genuine."

A high school built only five years ago at a cost of more than £2m is being threatened with closure due to falling secondary rolls in Staffordshire.

Weston Road High School, Stafford, is under threat because the county council wants to shut one of the town's three high schools. Campaigners fighting the merger of the town's two other schools say Weston Road should be the one to close because it is on the outskirts of the town.

Must Schools Close? is available from Gill Tattersfield, 30 Spencey Avenue, Harpenden, Herts, price 50p including p & p.

Parents protest over loss of free travel

by Bert Lodge

Hundreds of pupils were kept away from schools in West Glamorgan on the first day of the authority's new policy, which has cut free transport for more than 6,000 children.

Protesting parents took over a classroom at Morriston comprehensive throughout the day.

Mr Vivian Roberts, assistant director of education, said that on reorganization in 1974 the new county of West Glamorgan took over the policy of the most generous of the authorities. It was absorbing and continued to provide free transport for secondary pupils with more than two miles to travel, and for primary pupils who lived more than 1½ miles away.

Unfortunately we have had to find economies and we have reverted to the statutory limits of three miles for seniors and two miles for primary, the same arrangement as prevailed in the old Swansea authority. But the parents have naturally got used to the more generous provision over the years. The authority would continue to consider the situation, Mr Roberts added.

Privatization drive 'slowing down'

by Richard Garner



NUPE believes schools should provide breakfast and afternoon teas in addition to lunches.

The drive by Conservative-controlled local education authorities towards placing parts of the education service in the hands of private contractors is slowing down, says the union whose members are in the forefront of the battle against such schemes.

In its annual report, the National Union of Public Employees - which represents school meals staff, cleaners and caretakers - says there are now seven L.E.A.s which have put their cleaning services in the hands of private contractors.

But the union - whose annual conference begins in Bournemouth this weekend - says there has been "a distinct slowing down in the move away from direct labour" in recent months.

The report claims the reason is failure by private contractors to provide the same standard of service. It adds that while the schools service has been affected by them during the past year, private contracts have not yet developed into a "major threat" in the universities.

The union is bracing itself for a defence of the school meals service - and calling on L.E.A.s to offer school breakfast and afternoon teas as well as lunches.

The annual report says: "We call on our members to resist firmly all attacks on the school meals service in order to defend the right of all children to a nourishing midday meal. We also welcome new ideas and initiatives for improving and extending the service."

"Many local authorities have launched imaginative publicity campaigns to increase take-up. Others have invited parents to the school to try the meals, and introduced breakfast and afternoon teas for children whose parents are at work."

The report says that school lunches provide the only proper meal of the day for many children, adding: "They are particularly important when, as a recent national survey revealed, more than one in five school-aged children exists on an inadequate diet. They are also vital now that more than a million children in England alone receive free school meals."

Delegates will be urged to back a motion calling on the union to fight hard for the retention or restoration of

the school meals service. Another motion on school meals calls on local education authorities to levy a cover charge of 20p a week to provide facilities for those children now taking sandwiches to school.

Meanwhile, there is likely to be controversy over the Government's Youth Training Scheme, with one motion urging the union and the TUC to refuse to cooperate with it, while another acknowledges that refusal to cooperate with the Manpower Services Commission will not stop thousands of school-leavers taking up places on it.

Delegates will also debate a motion calling for the union to mount a defence of the education service, and support a campaign for a minimum education grant for all adults receiving education.

The motion says that support services to the educational process - such as school meals staff, crossing patrol personnel, cleaners, caretakers, classroom auxiliaries and nursery nurses - are all essential if people are to be given the right to education "from the cradle to the grave".

Selection opponents win some, lose some

by Biddy Passmore

Pro-comprehensive campaigners in Gloucestershire won a long-fought battle to end selection in Stroud last week. But they lost another, when county councillors voted by a narrow margin to keep a grammar school in Cheltenham.

At an all-day meeting of the county council, a controversial scheme to replace Stroud's two single-sex grammar schools with one mixed "super-grammar" was rejected, after vigorous lobbying by parents and governors had persuaded some Conservative councillors to break ranks with the majority group and vote for a fully comprehensive system.

An amendment proposing a scheme of five 11-16 comprehensives and a sixth-form college, proposed by Conservative councillor Bill Oakes, was passing by 38 votes to 15.

Comprehensive supporters were jubilant about the result. Mr Barry Tomlinson, a local teacher, said: "I would never have believed there would be such a strong comprehensive lobby in the Cotswolds".

Now the education committee will draw up a detailed scheme by the summer and seek the agreement of the two grammar schools - which are voluntarily controlled - to set up a voluntary college on their site. The plans will then be forwarded to Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary. The earliest date for implementation of the scheme would be 1986.

Although Sir Keith rejected a fully comprehensive scheme involving 11-18 schools for Stroud two years ago, the omens for a scheme with a sixth-form college are thought to be better as his chief concern at that occasion was about sixth-form provision.

Comprehensive campaigners were less pleased with the afternoon's proceedings on Cheltenham. Councillors rejected by 30 votes to 28 an amendment proposing an all-comprehensive scheme for the city moved by Mr Alex Lawrie, a Labour councillor. Two Conservatives abstained in the vote.

The county approved in principle a plan to merge the city's two grammar schools into a single mixed grammar, and to set up at least four 11-16 comprehensives, one of which would develop a sixth-form centre.

"Obviously it was very disappointing to fail after we'd had such a splendid debate and result on Stroud", Mr Lawrie said.

He thought the parents in Stroud had been more highly mobilized but said there was no doubt the majority in Cheltenham favoured a fully comprehensive scheme. Individual submissions to the county had favoured the ending of selection by four to one, he said, and the comprehensive lobby's petition had gathered more than 3,000 signatures, compared with the selective lobby's 1,000.

But at County Hall, officials said the submissions on the scheme had been evenly divided. It was also suggested that the retention of selection in Cheltenham presented fewer problems than in Stroud because there were more pupils and a grammar school would therefore cream off a smaller percentage.

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Legal move threatens Bengali school plan

Three new primary schools for the rising Bengali population in East London are under threat because of a proposed change in the law governing capital spending, according to leaders of the Inner London Education Authority.

Mr Peter Aylmer, vice-chairman of the ILEA's development sub-committee, said that plans to build new schools and open nursery classes, might become "unwitting victims of the Government's drive to enslave the GLC".

He said ILEA officers would continue to lobby the Department of Education to try and halt a move to reduce capital spending from £17m to £10m in 1984-85.

The Department of the Environment recently revealed that it intends to amend the usually non-controversial GLC Money Bill which authorizes capital spending by the council each year.

It is understood that ministers are particularly offended by the size of grants and loans in the capital budget of the Greater London Enterprise Board, which was set up by the present administration to create jobs.

The current rules for capital spending, which apply to all local councils, allow authorities to spend 50 per cent of the money they receive from the sale of surplus buildings. However, by tabling an amendment to the GLC Money Bill in Parliament in a few weeks' time, the



ILEA claims that some of the schools which serve the Bengali community are desperately overcrowded.

Government intends to restrict the GLC's spending from receipts to 25 per cent.

Mr Aylmer said the three new schools in the London borough of Tower Hamlets were a top priority. "We are desperately overcrowded in some schools and the DES has already recognized this by giving permission to go ahead. But if we don't have the money we can't go ahead."

Other priorities in the ILEA's capital budget included provision to help schools meet DES building standards and to house secondary re-organizations already approved by Sir Keith

Joseph, the Education Secretary, accommodation for further education for the young unemployed and rationalization of the building stock.

□ The Government now has such tight control of local authorities' current spending that it no longer needs a separate system to control capital expenditure, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities has told ministers. In a paper called "A Review of Capital Controls, Criticism and Alternatives", it says the present complex system should be scrapped and replaced by a simple limit on the amount authorities could borrow.

The lonely head finds a sympathetic ear at long last

by Sarah Bayliss

Many primary school heads feel isolated and benefit greatly from in-service courses which bring them together, according to an assessment of management training in Northern Ireland.

The assessment, titled "Management in Primary Education", quotes one headteacher as saying: "Principals find difficulty in discussing problems with local colleagues as word can get around that a school is in difficulty and wrong impressions can be given. A pooling of problems by principals from a distance is easier."

Another head described the effect of the reassurance he had gained from other heads: "I am more confident in dealing with a troublesome member of staff. Now I have contacts who will lend a sympathetic ear."

The courses, which were initiated by the Department of Education in Northern Ireland in 1981 and which to date have catered for 120 heads in four groups, were chiefly concerned with management issues.

A researcher, Slater Anne O'Shea, found most heads who had taken the course had been stimulated to take a fresh look at themselves and their schools, and, in particular, to develop their staff.

When asked to criticize the courses, heads said they needed a lot more help with "the personal side of handling staff", particularly when they wanted

to develop the curriculum, or change teaching styles. One commented ruefully: "Since I inherited all my staff redeployment - a more difficult and treacherous task with a different approach required for each individual."

In particular, heads wanted to acquire more "know how" in dealing with their deputies, probationary teachers, ancillary and non-teaching staff, the selection and deployment of staff, writing job descriptions, the tutoring scale posts of responsibility team building, communication and consultation.

They also felt that in-service training should do much more to help them find solutions to practical day-to-day administrative problems. Examples were the safety and welfare of pupils; lunchtime when staff refused to supervise; handling staff conflict; filing documents; budgeting and dealing with parents.

Management in Primary Education: An evaluation of the Department of Education's programme of training in educational management for principals of primary schools in Northern Ireland, is published by the Northern Ireland Council for Educational Research, Queen's University, Belfast, Price £2.00.

NEWS

Sixth-form course for Asian girls criticized

by Hilary Wilce

A segregated sixth-form course for Asian girls in Manchester is to be set up next autumn despite opposition from councillors who say it flies in the face of the city's education policy.

The course will be based in the mixed sixth-form college, Margaret Ashton College, but the 30 Asian girls taking it will be in buildings some distance from the other students.

The education committee recently gave approval for the one-year course to run for a trial two years. Full details have yet to be worked out, but studies are likely to include South Asian history and culture, women in society, English, Urdu, religious studies, childcare and housecraft.

Mr Harry Tomlinson, principal of Margaret Ashton, said the course would cater mainly for Muslim girls of average ability, many of whose parents would not be prepared to let them study in a mixed environment after the age of 16.

It would offer girls a chance to understand their own culture, and to study their position growing up in Britain, he said.

But Mr Nick Harris, a Labour

councillor and leading opponent of the course, said although the city had kept some single sex schools it had never been policy to offer segregated provision within mixed schools. "We have never recognized a separate Muslim educational entity", he said, "and I think it is quite the wrong road to go down". Left-wing councillors voted against the course when it was debated by the city's education committee.

Mr Harris said the course proposed was a low grade one with no real academic merit. Manchester was moving towards an integrated system of tertiary education offering as wide a range of post-16 studies as possible but this course would be a first standing sixth form within the system. He also feared the course was stereotyped.

Mr Tomlinson acknowledged that there could be some truth in this, but said it would be perfectly possible to change proposed subjects such as childcare and housecraft to compulsory studies.

Mr Mohammad Salam, a parent governor at Margaret Ashton, which still has lower classes going through as it converts from being a girls' high school to a mixed sixth-form college, said the course was an excellent idea.

Many Muslim parents would rather not take any risk of their girls being in a mixed environment after 16, he said. "As a Muslim parent I can say that the girls' integrity is, to some, more important than education after 16."

In 1982, when the city's secondary schools were reorganized, three county girls' schools - Whalley Range, Levenshulme and Manchester High School for Girls - were retained. Single-sex sixth-form education is available at Whalley Range, to the south of the city centre, but not at the other two girls' schools, leaving a dearth of provision in the north of the city.

Department heads' drop in status

by Bert Lodge

The status of heads of department in Welsh secondary schools has diminished in recent years at the same time as their responsibilities have increased, a survey by HM Inspectorate has shown.

Before large-scale secondary re-organization heads of large departments such as English and mathematics had considerable status, particularly in grammar schools. Next to the deputy head and the senior teacher they were usually the most influential and highly paid teachers in the school and were often promoted directly to headships.

But the size of the newly-created comprehensive schools called for their break-up into smaller administrative and pastoral units with such posts as head of section or head of house or year tutor.

This extension of middle management roles has to some extent reduced the status and influence of heads of department, the report says.

While departmental heads are increasingly seen as leaders of a team of teachers as well as senior subject specialists the full potential of their role has still not been developed, it adds.

Some schools have tried to make up for their loss of status by promoting department heads to senior teacher status but "regrettably and contrary to the original intention in their creation" these posts have frequently been allocated for responsibilities not directly linked with pupils' learning experiences.

The report concludes: "Whether a pupil achieves or underachieves is largely dependent on the quality of planning, execution, and evaluation that takes place within individual departments."

Departmental organization in secondary schools, HMI (Wales) occasional paper. Free from the Welsh Office education department, Cathays Park, Cardiff.

Welsh lack lab use

Adult students in Welsh language classes are being held back by the reluctance of tutors and authorities to use technical aids, a survey by HM Inspectorate has found.

A report out this week on 344 courses attended by more than 4,000 students shows use of language laboratories to be minimal, while "many classes make no use of such valuable equipment as cassettes and tape recorders".

On the other hand, the establishment of "Upan" courses - intensive learning spread over three or four sessions a week - "may well be the most important development in the field of teaching Welsh to adults in the past decade".

In 1981-82 more than 40 of these courses were running in different parts of Wales. The total for all courses including introductory, further, mixed attainment and "bridging" (almost fluent) were 75 one-term, 210 two-term and 59 three-term.

In the autumn of 1981 4,255 adults were studying Welsh as a second language under 362 tutors. Of these 137 were graduates in Welsh, 112 had a degree or diploma with Welsh as a main subject, (including BEd), 102 were qualified teachers while 11 were tutors without formal qualifications.

The report points out that in the 1960s and 70s a special effort was made to instal a language laboratory in every school and college, the most popular locations for adult Welsh classes. Yet in 35 centres with language laboratories only three courses involved their regular use and 41 their occasional use.

The teaching of Welsh as a second language to adults, Education survey 12. Free from the Welsh Office education department, (BDS 2), New Crown Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff.

The stepfather factor in exam passes

by Hilary Wilce

Children with stepfathers are less likely to be entered for GCE examinations than children with two natural parents, and those that do obtain fewer passes.

Only 13 per cent of girls with stepfathers passed five or more O levels, compared with 26 per cent in unbroken homes, according to a new study of stepchildren in Britain. The corresponding figures for boys were 14 per cent and 23 per cent.

The study found that children with stepfathers miss out in a variety of ways. Their parents take less interest in their progress at school, and have lower aspirations for them. The children in turn, particularly boys, are more likely than children from unbroken homes to leave school early and pass up further education opportunities.

In contrast, children with stepmothers did not show significant differences from children in unbroken homes.

The study, by Dr Elsa Ferri of the National Children's Bureau, involved almost 600 stepchildren, all participants in the National Child Development Study - a long-term follow-up of virtually all the children in England.

Scotland and Wales who were born in one week in March 1958.

It showed that children from stepfather homes were more likely to be considered by their teachers as having behaviour problems than those from unbroken homes, that stepchildren were more likely to have emotional and behavioural problems, and that stepchildren were more likely to play truant from school because they were "fed up".

The children's teachers considered that stepfathers and natural mothers who had remarried were considerably less interested in their children's progress at school than natural parents were. However, they thought that stepmothers and natural mothers showed about the same level of interest.

The study points out that many of these differences diminish drastically when other factors such as social class are taken into account. Stepchildren, particularly those with stepfathers, are more likely to have fathers in manual occupations, to come from larger families, and to be less well off than those in unbroken homes.

However, these factors do not explain all differences, Dr Ferri suggests. Lower expectations by stepfathers and the children's natural mothers could be explained, she says, by the fact that remarried parents might be anxious to have their dependent children leave home, in order to have freedom and privacy.

Lower expectations are not evident in stepmother families, but these families are less likely to be suffering economic hardship, and the role of a stepmother is likely to be seen as loving and rearing all the children in her family.

Overall, the study shows that children, especially boys, living with a stepfather suffer much the same disadvantages as those living with a lone mother.

Dr Ferri suggests, however, that teachers often have "less than positive attitudes towards parents in reconstituted families" and should consider whether they could do more to encourage stepfathers to be involved in their children's education.

Stepchildren. A national study by Elsa Ferri. Published by NFER-Nelson £7.95.



Children with stepfathers are more likely to leave school early.

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Diane Spencer reports from two conferences on vocational updating and reviews the progress of PICKUP



When PICKUP was launched by the Department of Education and Science in May 1982 by the then junior minister for education, Mr William Shelton, it was greeted with some scepticism. After all, what could be done with £1.2m? And good colleges were selling courses to local industry anyway, critics said. Two years later, PICKUP (Professional Industrial and Commercial Updating) can claim some success, and has proved that employers and colleges can make more use of each other than some had thought.

PICKUP grew out of a consultative document, *Continuing Education: Post Experience Vocational Provision for those in Employment* issued by the DES. Responses showed that although much was being done, provision was patchy and further and higher education institutions needed incentives and know-how. So PICKUP was designed to: encourage colleges, polytechnics and universities to identify updating needs in their region and plan ways of meeting them;

promote the development of new types of course, materials and ways of teaching so that updating needs can be met effectively and economically; build up sources of information so that potential clients in industry and commerce can discover what is available and so avoid wasteful duplication of effort by course providers; and tackle financial and administrative obstacles. The Open University was given £1m - £300,000 as a grant, the rest on loan to develop distance learning for PICKUP. The Further Education Unit sponsoring projects on approaches to curriculum planning and Bristol Polytechnic is producing a handbook on how to set up courses.

Nine regional development agencies have been employed to act as links between central and local initiatives. And to improve the flow of PICKUP information nationwide the DES has sponsored a £225,000 research project to set up a computer directory of courses.

When stealing ideas is no longer a crime

Collaboration, not competition, was the message from a conference at Warwick University last week aimed at promoting cooperation between education and industry for adult vocational training.

It followed the announcement by the Manpower Services Commission and the Department of Education and Science of a £1.3m pilot programme to develop local collaboration on training. The strategy will build on the experience of the DES's PICKUP programme.

Local collaboration was essential to produce modular, short courses, conveniently packaged, free of the exam hurdle and at the right price, Mr David Burt, deputy managing director of Hellermann Deutsch Ltd, told the 250-strong audience. It would also avoid re-inventing the wheel, he said. But he warned that courses should be of high quality. Some were sub-standard and they could ruin the market.

He urged the participants to "steal ideas", a sentiment echoed by Ms Jenny Bacon of the Manpower Services Commission who said there was no room for mercantile attitudes as there was more than enough business for everyone.

The £1.3m will go towards small-scale support of up to £15,000 for around 70 projects designed to build on existing collaboration between employers and institutions and for about 15 larger projects aimed at forging new employer-trainer links with grants of up to £50,000.

The money will not be available for training costs such as fees and subsistence, normally borne by employers, but will go towards planning and managing a project, analysing needs and developing materials.

Several examples of local collaboration exist already. The conference was presented with four: Rolls-Royce and Derbyshire College of Higher Education, the North-West Regional Management Centre, Southtek Consortium and the Coventry Consortium.

All had different characteristics as the conference aimed to show regional variations and how various needs could be met. No single model would fit the bill nationwide.

The first example showed how a local firm got together with the college's manufacturing engineering school in August 1982 to produce a six-month course for engineers by January 1983 - a fast production rate for academics, and at the right price.

The second was a region-wide effort involving more than 30 FE and HE institutions in management education and training.

Southtek is the product of the MSC's Open Tech initiative and attracted a £2m grant. Based in Brighton Polytechnic, it produces training packages for the distance learning of new technological skills. These packages are backed up by student support centres in companies and technical colleges in Kent, East and West Sussex.

The star of PICKUP is, however, the Coventry Consortium which com-

prises three colleges of further education. Coventry Polytechnic, Warwick University and Coventry education authority.

Only six months after being launched by Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, last October, it was associated with £2.5m worth of new work in training and updating in commerce and industry, the consortium's coordinator, Mr David Warner, told the conference.

The idea sprang from a PICKUP workshop in December 1982. Ten days later the education authority and the university put in a bid for a grant from the DES to develop it. By July, the Department agreed to give them a pump-priming sum of £82,000; the l.e.a. is backing it with £200,000 a year and the university with personnel and offices.

A team based at the university provides a single access point for information and advice. So a training officer of a firm is no longer passed from one institution to another in search of the right course.

The consortium shares staff and facilities so it can offer programmes that could not be mounted by a single institution.

The major problem in creating a consortium was to change attitudes. But Mr Warner believed college staff could be persuaded that consortia served their interests. Not only would they find new challenges and the chance to work with colleagues in other institutions; but a consortium, would create a larger cake for all.

High price of a free market

Will the Government's free-market philosophy, when applied to training the adult workforce, suffice for the future? This was one of the questions posed by Dr Noel Thompson, under secretary at the Department of Education and Science, at a seminar on vocational updating in London last week.

The idea of academics selling training courses to employers at full cost, in competition with the private sector, was a new concept for British further and higher education, he said.

Many employers, especially small and medium-sized firms, were reluctant to spend money on training even when the right package was available, and even though they had tax incentives to do so.

Dr Thompson wondered if Government intervention "at the margin, acting only as a catalyst" would be enough. "This is a very big question and I am not proposing an answer," he told academics, trade unionists and industrialists at the seminar organized by the Anglo-German Foundation for the Study of Industrial Society.

Should up-dating be mandatory? Professional qualifications could and should not last forever. Airline pilots retrained regularly and doctors had taken this on board; but he feared that the professional institutions had not.

He thought there was a respectable economic argument for sharing the cost of training between the parties that benefited: the employers, the individual and society as a whole. Employees faced a very heavy bur-



Noel Thompson

den as they had to pay fees out of income as no tax relief existed, and paid educational leave. "This is a disincentive to an individual who has to update himself if the employer is prepared to pay."

Herr Oliver Lübke of the *Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund* (the equivalent of the TUC) also complained of cut-back which made training too expensive for individual workers. He criticized the content of courses, their failure to take account of the needs of women, shift workers, commuters and foreign workers, and the shortage of staff.

Although 4 million workers were entitled to paid educational leave, only very small percentage claimed it. Reasons included inadequacies in the training system, lack of information, difficulties of access and, increasingly, attempts by employers to prevent workers taking leave.

Herr Lübke said further training was a task for the state and should be developed into an autonomous area of the public education system.

Dr Ray Cowell from Sunderland Polytechnic also feared the philosophy of the market place. Are we in danger of sacrificing long-term aims to short-term expediency? he asked.

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Brent staff accept need for fewer secondary schools Teachers favour mergers

by Nick Wood

Teachers in Brent are cooperating with Conservative plans to reduce the number of secondary schools in the borough.

They have accepted the new administration's argument that falling rolls make cutbacks inevitable, but they are pressing it to opt for school mergers rather than outright closures.

Attention is focused in the south of Brent where all eight secondary schools are faced with dwindling numbers and as many as 160 teachers' jobs are at risk.

Mr John Poole, chairman of the teachers' side of the joint consultative committee, said that a meeting with education officers had agreed that an annual intake of 125 pupils a year would be the yardstick by which to judge a school's viability. Geography would then determine the precise nature of any mergers.

The talks came after an education committee meeting at which teacher representatives combined with Labour councillors and a lone Liberal to reject a Tory plan to close four schools and merge two others.

But Mr Poole stressed that teachers accepted the need for action. He welcomed the Tories' "sense of realism" and accused the previous Labour administration of lacking the political will to take difficult decisions.

Labour has been unable to take a decision involving amalgamations of schools because they thought it would upset parents. But the lack of a decision has damaged the prospect of a



John Poole: action needed

proper comprehensive education for working-class children," he said.

Rumours of possible school closures had been circulating for years and parents, fearful that their children's education would be later disrupted, had been "voting with their feet" and sending them to schools outside the borough. One in five Brent children were now educated this way.

Mr Poole said that teachers backed amalgamations rather than closures for both educational and trade union reasons. Mergers made it possible to retain the best features of the schools involved, to ease the difficulties children faced when changing schools, and to protect jobs.

"We would hope that the authority would staff schools generously in the interim period to allow a smooth transition to a new set up."

"If we did nothing and the authority were to apply its teacher staffing formula strictly, there could be jobs on the line. If it goes for amalgamations there could be substantial fewer than that."

New proposals based on these aims were due to be put to a special meeting yesterday. The authority is aiming to submit reorganization plans to the Department of Education in July in the hope of implementing them in September next year.

But the latest review has been sharply attacked by the Labour group, which accuses the Conservatives of reopening old wounds.

Mr Martin Coleman, Labour leader, said: "The borough last year engaged in a widespread consultation exercise on this issue. Hundreds of replies were received and plans agreed. These included an inquiry into education in Brent by outside experts, the development of community schools and a reduction in overcrowding in north Brent schools."

"All agreed that what the schools required more than anything else was stability after the uncertainties of the previous few years. The Tory plan would give us at least three years of chaos with the inevitable result that parents will send their children to out-borough schools rather than risk Tory financial experiments."

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SEPTEMBER 1984 START

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The buoyancy of consumer spending and the growth of the larger Retail organisations have contributed to this, but so has the belief by Retail employers that their businesses benefit by employing young people with an education to the highest levels.

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Perhaps it is not surprising that fifteen leading Retail organisations have been working with academic staff at Manchester Polytechnic over three years to develop a specific degree for their industry, to cater for some of the many young people who have identified retailing as their career area.

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A little freedom with a new outlook

"Most of them have got the heroin in their veins," said the assistant registrar of Warwick University.

No, this was not another seminar on drug abuse. It was a short residential course at the university for mature students and the heroin in question was education.

It was fortunate the drug was benign, as the students were most certainly hooked. Throughout a gruelling two days of lectures and seminars, their interest never flagged and their only demand was for more. Some were even heard regretting that the disco arranged for their entertainment on Friday night was not another seminar.

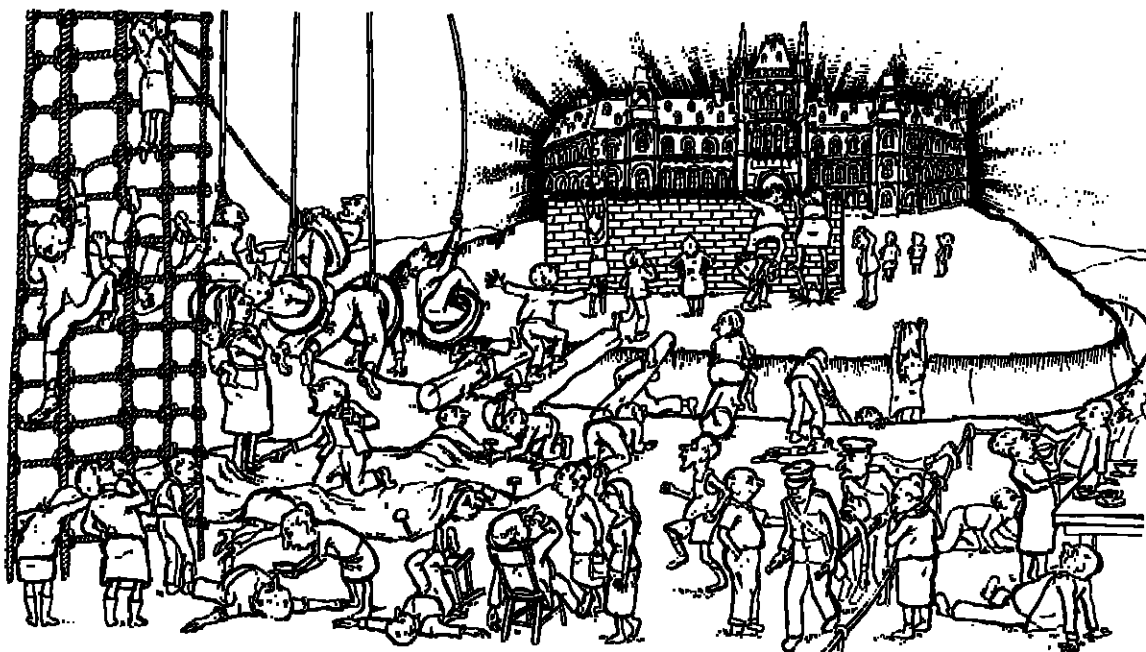
Such enthusiasm will be familiar to anyone who has taught mature students. After years spent in the hopelessness of a dead end job or the nerve-fraying isolation of rearing small children, books and new ideas are devoured with a greed that would be the answer to a teacher's prayer in many secondary schools. But the enthusiasm is all the greater on a residential course, away from domestic duties and distractions. The participants at Warwick were staying in study bedrooms on campus, just like real students. Well, they would have been like real students if they hadn't been talking about work.

These two days at the university were an experimental feature of a one-year "open access" course which is being run at two local colleges, Tile Hill in Coventry and North Warwickshire in Nuneaton. Their aim is to bring mature people with qualifications ranging from nil to two rather dust-laden A levels up to the standard of study skills required for higher education. They were joined by a group from the Mid-Warwickshire College at Leamington Spa who were taking a more conventional path to higher education - A levels.

About 40 out of a possible 60 had come, mostly women in their mid to late 30s with young children, many of them single parents. Some were slightly nervous. "I sort of feel a little bit of freedom might be dangerous," said one woman who hadn't spent a night away from her husband and children since 1976.

Not only were they dangerously free, there was a fair bit of consciousness-raising going on as well. The theme of the two-day course was "Women, The Family and Society", a subject which appeared to have deterred most of the male students from

Biddy Passmore visits a gruelling 'pre-selection' course for adults chasing university entrance qualifications



taking part but which gave many of the women a new way of looking at things. "Just you wait till I get home tomorrow," one muttered, conjuring up an alarming picture of husband-beating in Leamington Spa.

From Dr Paulina Palmer's run-down on Women in Contemporary Fiction to Professor Meg Stacey's predictions about The Future for Women and the Family (the nuclear family was a bit of a myth and other arrangements might be better anyway) there was much to challenge the way many of them lived.

But the students warmed particularly to a virtuoso performance by Dr Tom Winnifrid who, in a lecture entitled "Death of Australia: the Fallen Woman in Nineteenth-Century Fiction", spoke up for old-fashioned values - in fiction, at least. For Dr Winnifrid, from his wild, shambolic exterior to his witty, impetuous delivery, is the kind of star teacher students dream of and all too rarely get.

"People pay good money for the theatre to see that," as one appreciative member of his audience remarked. Because the course had to be

arranged out of term time, (at a special bargain price of £15 a head) there was not much chance for the participants to rub shoulders with university students. But the Mature Students Society had laid on a disco and about a dozen members of it were there to reveal what it was really like to be one of the aged minority over 21.

One middle-aged woman who lived on campus admitted it was quite hard

'If they can't cope with us, they can't cope with the universities'

to mix in. But Arthur, 57-year-old president of the society and a former production engineer turned sociologist, was a completely satisfied customer. "I wanted to find out what it was all about," he said. "I thought university was the best place. And I found out."

Few problems would deter the tough nuts who survive an Open Access course. Although the courses are broad and do not cover as much ground in individual subjects as A

levels, the weekly pace is gruelling and teaching methods imitate those they will find in higher education. Each student has 18 hours of lectures and seminars a week (by one of those quirks which is best left unexplored, this counts as full-time with the Department of Education and Science and part-time with the Department of Health and Social Services, so students can, and some do, support themselves on supplementary benefits).

The course covers seven areas, including four hours a week of maths and two of study skills, with the rest of the emphasis on literature and social studies. Students have Wednesday afternoon off and can use the university library. Sixty per cent of the final marks awarded to students are based on exams and 40 per cent on continuous assessment, including a 3,000-word essay.

The first course was started up three years ago by Noel Harrie, a lecturer at Tile Hill and himself a former mature student at Warwick. Others collaborating in the venture were Gordon Lawrence, Warwick's professor of education, David Warner, assistant registrar

responsible for mature students, Oliver Furley, dean of social studies, Coventry Polytechnic. They thought specially designed courses would better suited to the needs of students than A levels.

Although they all stress that course was not designed to pre-select students for Warwick University, Coventry Polytechnic, the first of students not unnaturally found those two institutions. Of the first to complete the Tile Hill course, started degree courses and six others went to Warwick or Coventry, with seven heading off to Old Polytechnic.

Now there are branching out, students now have conditional offers, Essex, York, Birmingham and later universities and one was viewed by Oxford University. All are normally conditional on low bids (more than 60 per cent) in favour of seven subjects.

Demand has grown: there were applications for the 24 places at Tile Hill this year. While most of students are housewives, they include a former head-girl with formal qualifications (she got there via a Royal Marine and former body to the Sheikh of Oman and a 24-year-old from High Wycombe who was court advertised in her local paper library and moved to Coventry follow it. Only two out of the two who started the course have dropped out.

North Warwickshire College is now followed Tile Hill's lead, set up its own course on the same basis autumn. Tile Hill has also established business studies open access or with a high mathematical content plans to start a two-year science this autumn. There is talk that they may join in soon. Open access booming.

But ironically, as David Winnifrid points out, it is taking off just as number of places is contracting, pressures are forcing more and more universities and polytechnics to blind race for the best A level score. "These mature students face the stiffest competition for entry to higher education ever," he said.

If they can get a place, however they stand a good chance of doing it. "We're doing the university, polytechnic, a service," Noel Harrie comments. "If they can't cope with it, they certainly can't cope with that."

NOTICEBOARD

PEOPLE...

SCHOOL APPOINTMENTS
Mrs Rachel Raphael, head of classics at the City of London School for Girls, to be head of Channing School, north London.
Mr David Barville, deputy head of St Mary's Church of England comprehensive, Hendon, head designate of Westminster City Church of England comprehensive.
Mrs Emma Stevens, deputy head of Weishopol High School, Powys, to be head of the Weald of Kent grammar school for girls, Tonbridge, Kent.

COLLEGE APPOINTMENT
Mr Anthony Marshall, head of resources at the Wirral Metropolitan College, to be principal of Bournemouth and Poole College of Art and Design.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENT
Mr David Morgan, senior lecturer in sociology and social anthropology at the University of Kent at Canterbury, to be Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences.



Fred Evans

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS
The new county education officer for North Yorkshire is to be Mr Fred Evans, at present director of educational services for Kirklees Metropolitan District Council in West Yorkshire. Mr Evans, 43, succeeds Dr Edwin Owens who retires at the end of July.

Miss Joan Cooper, honorary visiting research fellow at the University of Sussex, to be chairman of the new Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work. Mrs Wendy Izod, adviser (salaries and conditions of employment) for the Hotel Catering and Institutional Management Association, to be secretary to the National Association of School Meals Organizers.

Mr David Garforth will be director of a new Dorset county assessment and profiling unit.

Mr J Lockhart Whitford, who retired from the rectorship of the High School, Stirling in October 1982, to be honorary secretary (Scotland) of the Council for Education in World Citizenship.

PRIZEWINNERS

Clapham College has won the Analyst 84 Chemistry Competition organized by the Polytechnic of North London's School of Chemistry. The problem, which involved analysing water samples in controlled laboratory conditions, was set by Thames Water.

CONFERENCES...
June 14
Institute of Health Education one-day conference/workshop on Using Microcomputers in School Health Education at the Northampton Education Centre. Details from Mr Mike Gibson, St Mary's Middle School, Grange Road, Northampton.

June 16
Association for Liberal Education one-day conference on Education in YTS at Paddington College, London W2. Details from Ian Cameron, 83 Wiltshire Road, Langley, Slough, Berks SL3 8JG.

June 20
Mental Handicap Week conference on Special Needs - Special People at the Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 from 9.15 am to 4.15 pm. Mr Brian Rix will chair the morning session. Details from MENCAP, 123 Golden Lane, London EC1.

July 6-8
The Association for the Psychiatric Study of Adolescents conference will be held at the University of Exeter. A multidisciplinary format of plenary and workshop sessions will explore the conference themes of dependency, separation and authority. Details from Dr Richard Williams, Department of Family Psychiatry, Bristol Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Saint Michael's Hill, Bristol BS2 1BL. The closing date for applications is June 4.

August 28-31
The Sixth International Conference on Higher Education will be held by the Institute for Research and Development in Post-Compulsory Education at the University of Lancaster. The theme is *Arts and Processes in the Electronic Age*. Details from Dai Hounsell, director, Sixth International Conference on Higher Education, The University of Lancaster, Lancaster LA1 4YL.

NEWS

September 11-13

Sixth International Home Economics Research Conference at Liverpool Polytechnic. Details from Mrs F. Hadley, Home Economics Department, F.L. Calder Campus, Dowsett Lane, Liverpool L18 3JL.

October 5-9
International Perspectives on Environmental Education: Issues and Actions - an international conference to be held at Banff, Alberta Canada and organized by the National Association for Environmental Education, Ohio, Details from Dr William Stapp, School of Natural Resources, the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States.

June 8
Events for under-five-year-olds on the South Bank Terraces: pirate boat trips, musical playground, dressing up, baby bounce and softroom area and more from 10.30 am to 4 pm. At the same time, the sponsors of the event, Equality for Children, will hold a conference in the Purcell Room on South Bank for parents and professionals involved in child care. Details from Midshire, 44 Earham Street, London WC2.

June 12, 13 and 14
The Royal Institution Schools lecture for fourth forms on Sound Science will be given by Professor D. Phillips at 5.30 pm at the Royal Institution, 21 Albemarle Street, London W1. Details from the Lectures Secretary.

June 15
Handwriting study day at Woodlands Education Centre, Chorley, organized by the National Handwriting Study Group and the Division of Pre-Service Education at Edge Hill College of Higher Education. Sessions will focus on aspects of handwriting models, remedial programmes for children with handwriting difficulties, preparing pupils for the demands of writing in secondary schools and current research. Details from Mrs Mary Hague, Edge Hill College of Higher Education, St Helen's Road, Ormskirk L39 4QP.

Needcraft
Gawthorpe Hall, a Jacobean mansion in Lancashire, is now administered by Nelson and Colne College. The Hall houses the Rachel Kay-Shuttleworth collection of embroidery, lace and costume, ranging from the Elizabethan period to the present. The Creative Needcraft Association, which is based at the Hall, holds weekend study courses for teachers, lecturers and advisers. A general brochure describing these and other activities is available from Gawthorpe Hall, Padham, Burnley, Lancashire BB1 2BU.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
The Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit has published a booklet for craft lecturers in further education whose students have difficulties with reading, writing or calculation. Using examples from catering, construction and hairdressing, it suggests ways of helping students improve their skills in the context of the course.

Available from the ALBSU, Kingsbourne House, 229-231 High Holborn, London WC1V 7DA, price £1.20, postage 30p.

Community Schools: Claims and Performance outlines research into community schools of interest to adult educators and school teachers. The school as a cultural centre, community development and social action, meeting needs, the community curriculum and participative management are the main areas of concern. The study, by John Wallis and Graham Meo, is available in price £4 including postage from the Publication Unit, Department of Adult Education, University of Nottingham, Cherry Tree Buildings, C

Block, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD.

Expenditure on Teaching Materials: Schoolbooks, Equipment and Stationery - a report by the British Educational Publishers Association and the Educational Publishers Council which compares expenditure on teaching materials between 1978-79 and 1982-83. It shows that 51.1 per cent have cut allowances to primary pupils and 70 have cut those to secondary pupils and describes variations in individual spending. Inquiries to the Director, BEEA, Sunley House, 10 Gunthorpe Street, London E1 7RW.

INFORMATION WANTED
Multicultural education
The head of the faculty of communication studies at Stoke High School, Ipswich, is producing a multicultural awareness package for use in in-service training for teachers working in mainly urban secondary schools. He would like to hear from readers with experience or interest in the field. Please write to F.H. Mikkad, Stoke High School, Malden Hall Approach, Ipswich IP2 8DL.

Athletics
The London Schools Athletic Association would like to contact the following ex-officers of the Association: Mr Watson, Mr A Weaver, Miss C Phillips, Mr J Palmer, Miss B Goldsmith, Mr N Caves, Mr G Chaffey, and Miss A Abba. Please write to Mr T Conway, Honorary Secretary, 61 Trinity Rise, Tulse Hill, London SW2.

Compiled by Mary Cruickshank

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10% offered no grants to keep pupils at school

by Biddy Passmore

One in ten local education authorities spent nothing at all on grants to encourage 16-year-olds to stay on at school last year.

Statistics released by the Department of Education and Science show that the frugal councils were the London borough of Sutton, the metropolitan districts of Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Salford, Trafford and Leeds, and the counties of Cheshire, Kent, Oxfordshire and Warwickshire. They spent nothing on educational maintenance allowances (EMAs) in 1982-83.

It is hard to establish if the absence of financial help had any effect on the number of pupils staying on full-time at school or college, chiefly because most of those councils cover relatively prosperous areas, where children receive encouragement from home.

Of the 11, the council continuing with the worst socio-economic problems, according to the DES analysis published in 1982, is Sandwell. Its staying-on rate in 1982-83 was lower than in other equally deprived authorities but, at 38.2 per cent of 16-year-olds, not the lowest.

The lowest rate was in Liverpool, where only 35.1 per cent of 16-year-olds stayed on at school or college, with the record in Oldham, Newcastle and Durham only marginally better. The East Anglian counties of Norfolk and Suffolk also scored worse than other shire counties, with 39 per cent of Norfolk's 16-year-olds and 39.6 per cent of Suffolk's staying on compared with 51.7 per cent in Cornwall and Northamptonshire.

The authority with the highest proportion of 16-year-olds continuing their studies was the Isle of Wight (65.3 per cent), followed by the London borough of Barnet (60.7 per cent). But the highest proportion of studious 17-year-olds was to be found in the London borough of Bexley, with 45.9 per cent, followed by Barnet with 42 per cent.

At the other end of the scale, only 17.9 per cent of the 17-year-olds in Gateshead were still at school or college and the proportion in Barnsley (19.8 per cent), the London borough of Barking (20 per cent) and Knowsley (20.2 per cent) was not much higher. Among the counties, Suffolk had the lowest participation rate among 17-year-olds; only 21.5 per cent were still in full-time education in 1982-83.

The chances of a working-class child going to university have not changed since the 1930s and are getting worse, the Inner London Education Authority has pointed out to the University Grants Committee.

In its response to the committee's questionnaire about the future of higher education, the authority urges the universities to seize the chance given by falling numbers of 18-year-olds and open their doors to more students from the working class and other groups under-represented in higher education.

The letter by Mr Neil Fletcher, chairman of the authority's further and higher education subcommittee, urges: "There should, at the very minimum, be no reflection in places."

UK/US SCHOOL EXCHANGE SCHEME

Enquiries are invited from teachers with an interest in effecting the exchange of a party of ten pupils and one teacher with a high school in the United States for four weeks. It is envisaged that accommodation will be provided by host families and that the participating schools will provide a varied programme in and out of school.

Obtain details from SPECIAL PROGRAMMES CENTRAL BUREAU FOR EDUCATIONAL VISITORS SEYMOUR NEWS HOUSE, SEYMOUR NEWS, LONDON W1H 0EP. Tel 01-488 8181.



100, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF

Strike secures big rise

FINLAND

Donald Fields on the settlement of a pay claim

Finland's comprehensive school teachers resumed work on May 2 after a month-long strike that spread to affect 9,000 of the 45,000 members of the national union, the OAJ, keeping 150,000 children at home. (TES April 13).

The three-year formula devised by a government mediator and accepted by the OAJ and the local authorities that employ the teachers, gives pay in-

creases well above the centralized, two-year deal endorsed in March by most blue-collar and clerical unions in Finland.

But as a result of some fiscal juggling designed to assist the harassed principal paymaster - the State - most of the benefit is deferred until the latter part of the period and is tied to a reform of the school syllabus that will entail extra work in the classroom.

Nevertheless, OAJ officials deemed the strike, which cost about Fm1m (£125,000) a day and attracted widespread public sympathy, a success. Because of technicalities it is hard to give percentage figures, but it appears that starting scales will rise by 1.5-2.0

per cent with a substantial boost for more senior staff.

Under the agreement the teachers and their pupils will not have to turn out during the long summer holiday or on term-time Saturdays to compensate for days of instruction lost during the strike, as some stern pedagogues suggested.

The end of the action paved the way for settlements covering other striking unions, including one of play-school teachers, belonging to the professional umbrella organization, Akava, which claims its members' purchasing power has slumped by 17 per cent since 1970 against a 24 per cent increase for manual workers.

Israelis launch hi-tech drive

The Education Ministry in Jerusalem has launched a campaign to attract more girls to join technological streams and studies in the high schools. Personal letters were sent out to girls graduating from elementary school, at about the age of 14, and to their parents recommending that they take up electronics, electrical and computer studies.

Mr Meir Avigad, head of technological education at the ministry, said that girls could study technological subjects on a par with boys as these required no inordinate physical strength.

During the past two years, Mr Avigad said, some 2,000 girls have gone in for the technological subjects in high school. But this had failed to meet the country's needs, he said.

Girls to be given higher priority in Europe

Anne Good examines proposals to promote equality

Positive action for girls is likely to be brought to the forefront of EC discussions on education during the second half of 1984.

With Ireland due to take over presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers from France next June, preparatory talks are going on between the Government and the European Commission to plan a work programme and decide priorities. During a meeting with Mr Ivor Richard, the Social Affairs Commissioner, at the end of March, Ms Gemma Hussey, Irish Education Minister, said that it would be putting proposals for EC measures on girls' education back on the negotiating table.

The idea of Community action to ensure girls are treated equally in education is not a new one. As far back as 1975 the Commission proposed including education in a Community law on equal treatment for women and men. Believing that, if women were to have equal opportunities with men, girls must get equal education, the Commission wanted to end discrimination in access to education and in career guidance.

But some member countries, especially Denmark, are adamant that the Community cannot get involved in education policy. So the equal treatment law, which was eventually approved in 1976, covered vocational training but not education. However, in February 1976, education minister of the Nine declared that equality in education was essential "if equal opportunity is to be achieved in society".

Despite this lipservice on the part of the Council, continued efforts by the Commission to include education as an integral part of equality policy did not meet with any greater success. In 1980 the Council agreed to plans for EEC-backed work on sex-role stereotyping in school books, on setting up special programmes to encourage girls to consider a broader range of careers, to compare the effects on single-sex and coeducation, and on investigating the role of the mass media. But implementation of these plans, too, was blocked by some member countries and they never came to fruition.

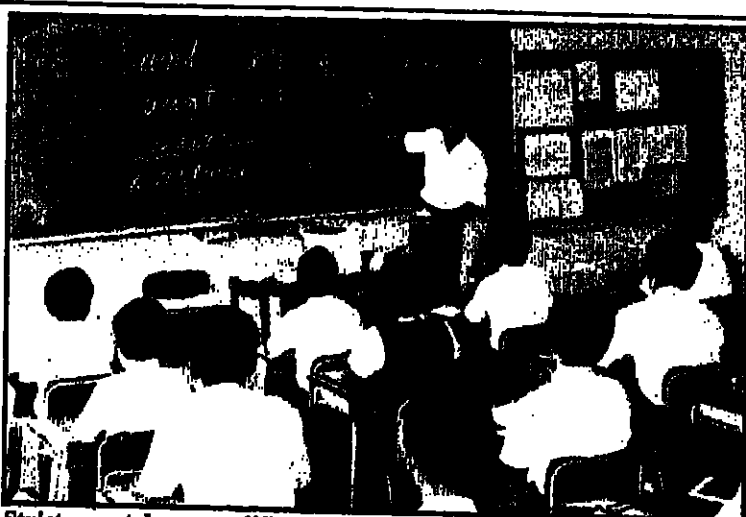
By the end of 1981, when a Community action programme on equality for 1982-1985 was finalized, the Commission seemed to have lost heart. At Parliament commented, the programme made "no more than a tentative reference to the education of women by suggesting that the necessary action should be taken by the member states".

Yet the problem is acute. Continued discussion of "youth unemployment" in Europe sometimes masks the fact that young girls have been particularly hit by the crisis. Recent EEC statistics reveal that one out of every two unemployed women in the Community is aged under 25 years. The corresponding figure for men is one out of three.

Where Community action in education has been agreed, such as EEC-funded pilot projects on the transition from school to working life, programmes on new technology in education and on migrant's education, some efforts have been made to ensure that girls benefit equally. But these do not come to grips with the real issue, the women's inferior position in the labour market has some of its roots in girls' education.

It is not yet clear if Ms Hussey intends simply to resubmit the proposals which have been put to one side, whether she will come up with a new programme in line with the more urgent needs of the mid-1980s.

Meanwhile, the Commission and Council are under some pressure from the European Parliament to improve the situation of women passed last January. Parliament called for "joint measures to achieve full equality of opportunity in education".



Stricter watch on qualifications... a move to increase classroom standards

Bill sets out to fold up the 'paper teachers'

JAPAN

Barbara Casasas looks at proposals to change training

A plan to tighten up teaching qualifications will soon be presented to the Japanese Parliament.

The proposals, which would constitute the first important revision to the 1949 Teachers' Licence Law, would increase the number of academic credits required to qualify and extend teaching practice periods.

They would also increase the number of classes of teaching certificate for each level of school education (elementary, lower secondary and upper secondary) from two to three. Masters degree holders would be eligible for the top grade certificate, first degree holders the second grade, and two-year junior college graduates the third.

The measures are a response to public criticism of the ease with which licences are granted and the growth in the number of "paper teachers" who have no intention of using their qualifications. According to the latest Ministry of Education figures, of the 219,138 graduates awarded certificates for elementary, lower secondary and upper secondary levels in March 1982, only 25,028 or 11.4 per cent took up teaching posts.

However, opposition to the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's plan from the Japan Socialist Party and influential left-wing Japan Teachers' Union (Nikkkyoso) suggests the passage of the Bill might not be smooth.

The Nikkkyoso claims the increase in credits would overload teachers and students, that teacher unity would be impaired by more rigid stratification and that promotion would be harder to obtain. Under the present regulations, teachers may be promoted after 15 years' service, without acquiring further academic credits. Under the new

scheme, however, years of service would only partially cover the extra credit requirements.

The extension of teaching practice periods from four to eight weeks for nursery and elementary student teachers and from two to six weeks for lower and upper secondary is also strongly contested.

Already teachers complain that classroom routine is hampered by the student teacher. As a result, student teachers have a difficult task finding institutions to accept them and invariably return to their old schools.

The Nikkkyoso is now collecting signatures of parents and teachers opposed to the proposals and will discuss with local union officials whether to call a strike during the Diet debate on the Bill. The Bill contains no provisions for salary scales for the three classes of certificate - teachers earn 16 per cent more on average than civil servants - and for the grades entitling holders to obtain posts as school principals and deputies; the first question would be settled by the ministry in consultation with the National Personnel Authority, which sets civil servants' pay, and the second by the ministry.

Courses now designated for first-class certificates would automatically qualify for second grade under the new system, but ministry approval would have to be sought for top grade.

In an effort to improve teaching standards, three universities of teacher education have been established in the past four years to offer undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and to promote school education research. The ministry plans to increase the number of teachers in compulsory schools (elementary and lower secondary) by 82,000 between 1980 and 1991 and reduce the maximum class size from 45 to 40. The number of upper secondary teachers is to be increased by 10,000, not to reduce class sizes, but to allow further streaming, especially in English and maths.

Trying to kick the habit of using undercover agents

UNITED STATES

Peter David on the pros and cons of new police methods of trapping school drug dealers

American schools are allowing police undercover agents to pose as high school pupils in order to track down children who sell illicit drugs to their classmates. But although the operations have been technically successful - hundreds of pupils who deal in drugs have been trapped and expelled - they have raised troubling questions about the preservation of privacy within the education system.

National surveys suggest that one in twenty high school students takes marijuana every day, and one in six takes cocaine. In the case of marijuana, use has declined since the 1970s, but continues to worry parents and teachers. The schools have tried to counter drug abuse by alerting children to the alleged health hazards, but undercover operations have had a more immediate deterrent effect.

In Cincinnati, for example, more than 50 pupils were recently arrested and charged with trying to sell drugs to narcotics agents posing as fellow pupils. A similar operation in San Diego schools last January netted more than 130 pupils who, police claimed, intended to sell marijuana. School officials in both cases said one of the aims of the operations had been to alert parents and teachers to the prevalence of drug-taking.

But the undercover approach has generated considerable alarm among teachers. In one case, teachers brought an unsuccessful legal action alleging that the presence of undercover police officers in their classrooms had a

potentially "chilling effect" on free speech.

The use of undercover agents is only the latest wrinkle in a growing debate about the ability of schools to respect pupils' right to privacy. One issue, the power of teachers to search children suspected of selling or possessing drugs, has already gone all the way to the Supreme Court.

The case began four years ago when a New Jersey high school teacher caught two girls smoking in a bathroom. When one of them, a 14-year-old, insisted to school authorities that she had not been smoking, her handbag was searched. It turned out to contain marijuana as well as cigarettes, together with documents suggesting that the girl was selling drugs.

A fair cop? Not according to lawyers representing the girl. They told the Supreme Court recently that the search violated the so-called exclusionary rule contained in the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. The rule is intended to protect citizens from "unreasonable searches" by government employees.

New Jersey's supreme court agreed,



Surveys suggest that as many as one in six high school students are cocaine users.

holding that teachers, as public employees acting under state authority, should be constrained by the exclusionary rule. The National Schools Board Association and the state government have asked the Supreme Court to overrule the New Jersey decision on the grounds that it will prevent teachers from maintaining discipline in the schools.

Meanwhile, the privacy issue has cropped up in an even more complex form as the result of anxiety by some parents about the danger of schools trying to indoctrinate children politically or intruding on their private political and moral beliefs.

The parents want the Department of Education to enact strict regulations

limiting the right of teachers to ask pupils for certain kinds of information. No pupil, for example, would be compelled to participate in any test designed to determine his or her political affiliation, sexual attitudes, or information about family income.

Impetus for the proposal has come largely from conservative groups suspicious of experimental approaches to teaching such as role-playing or discussions of values. Mrs Phyllis Schlafly, president of the right-wing Eagle Forum, complained recently that some teachers saw schools as a chance to subject children to psychiatric treatment, probe into private family matters or enforce changes in children's religious and moral attitudes.

Bell 'fails to ring the changes'

The first anniversary of the Reagan Administration's *Nation at Risk* report, which stunned the United States with its dismal verdict on the state of schools, has provided an opportunity for fierce disagreement between the Education Secretary, Mr Terrel Bell, and the biggest teaching union, the National Education Association, Peter David writes.

At a recent Washington press conference, Mr Bell said the report issued by a National Commission on Excellence in April last year had triggered a wave of unprecedented reforms throughout the US.

He said virtually every state government had drawn up plans to raise graduation requirements for high school students, and six states had introduced incentive pay schemes for teachers on the lines recommended by the commission. Another 24 had plans to do so.

But Mr Bell's satisfaction is plainly not shared by the organization that represents most American teachers.

Mrs Mary Hatwood Futrell, president of the NEA, celebrated the report's anniversary by accusing the Reagan Administration of supporting education with rhetoric rather than action.

To drive her point home, the NEA last month issued a report of its own and pointing out that President Reagan was continuing to cut the Federal contribution to the cost of public education. In 1984, the report claimed, Federal money would meet only 6.4 per cent of the costs of the schools, the lowest proportion for 20 years. The remainder had to be raised by school districts and state governments.

Victoria not amused by its staying-on rate

AUSTRALIA

Lula Garcia on attempts to increase the number of pupils completing 12 years of school

The secondary school system in Victoria will face its most dramatic overhaul in more than 100 years if the state's Labour government accepts proposals put forward in a ministerial report just released.

The report was compiled by a committee set up last year by the state minister for education, Mr Robert Fordham, to examine and recommend changes in the provision of education for 15 to 19-year-olds who are neither working nor in tertiary education, and to encourage more students to complete their secondary studies.

The proposals are aimed at increasing the number of children who complete 12 years of schooling, only 57 per cent of Victoria's pupils do so, compared with 90 per cent in Japan and an average of 65 per cent in countries belonging to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The committee found that a significantly smaller proportion of students went on to year 12 (sixth form) in government schools (29 per cent) compared with students attending Roman Catholic schools (51 per cent) and other independent schools (95 per cent).

The committee has recommended a system of community colleges for the state's 60,000 senior secondary children.

The colleges could be established on a "cluster" basis, with several nearby high schools feeding senior students into each college. Alternatively, they could be in existing technical and further education institutions.

Under the proposed new system, the Higher School Certificate and other leaving certificates and diplomas would be scrapped and replaced by a general education certificate which would take two years to complete and would be recognized both as school credentials and for entrance purposes to tertiary institutions such as universities.

The recommendations also call for an overhaul of the curriculum, with traditional subject boundaries being

abandoned and the curriculum expanded to put greater emphasis on social issues and the knowledge and skills students need for life after school.

The report criticized present education at year 12: "Curricular content and methods of assessment are dominated by the use of selection for entry into higher education. This not only discourages retention into year 12, it also fails to recognize that secondary schooling has its own purposes and integrity."

"The competitive ethos engendered by ranking at year 12 permeates the whole of schooling: a proportion of the generation is progressively excluded from the possibility of further education," it said.

The report rejected the idea of extending the school leaving age or of "effectively conscripting young people for longer periods of education by other means. Attempts merely to reduce labour supply by keeping young people out of the workforce could have destructive effects."

In support of separate colleges, the report showed that options were limited at present because there were small numbers of year 11 and 12 students in some schools. The new community colleges would rationalize facilities and staff, and give students more options.

Releasing the report, Mr Fordham said he hoped that provision for the new colleges would be made in the 1985 budget and that the new colleges could be phased in from 1986.

The report's recommendations would be examined by the government and educational authorities. Working parties would be set up to report back later this year with final proposals.



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Why teaching must be seen as part of wealth creation

Sir - "Some teachers", according to Dr Ian Jamieson, "have half a mind to leave teaching and join the wealth-creating sector of the economy." (TES, April 20, 1984) As it is not immediately clear from the context whether the distinction is meant seriously, my response may be over-reaction or even incipient paranoia; but in a few words he focuses on an assumption implicit in Tory orthodoxy and in the government's dealings with teachers, and it is one which deserves both serious attention and rebuttal.

What worries me most is the definition of wealth which seems to underpin so much Conservative thought. Making fat or candy loss creates wealth: making music does not. The manufacture of cassette tapes or plastic discs is a wealth-creating activity: teaching children mathematics or physics they will ultimately require to use them is not. One could multiply examples of this dichotomy *ad nauseam*, turn it into a game, even play points for making paper or translators, minus points for writing books or making radio programmes. In short the distinction is both artificial and fatuous, but its effects are pernicious.

Equally pernicious is the associated habit of basing judgments on the quantifiable rather than the relevant (Sir Keith Joseph's recent reference to the laws of supply and demand in justifying our current salary levels is a fine example of this fallacy: yet the metaphor of the "market place" - central to the spurious ideology of monetarism - was never of convincing relevance even to commerce, and has probably outlived its usefulness).

Making ends meet

Sir - The fact that many teachers are having to "moonlight" in order to supplement their salaries has recently been publicly aired once again and begs the thought that it may well not be long before they are obliged to seek similar methods of support for their departmental capital allowances.

As head of English in a six form entry, 11 to 16 comprehensive school, I receive approximately £1,500 per annum (give or take £50 which which to educate 900 pupils in their entire mother tongue and literary cultural heritage. How this is to be done in the present day without running up a vast departmental overdraft is getting quite beyond me.

From that annual sum, I have to buy all my textbooks including those required by GCE and CSE syllabus

Sort out anomalies

Sir - I am slightly uneasy about one paragraph in the front page article "Employers to raise pay offer" (TES, April 27). This refers to a slight possibility that teachers could be awarded a similar settlement to further education lecturers - that is, a percentage rise with extra cash for those on the lowest scale.

I am not suggesting that those on the lowest scale don't need extra cash but my message to the Burnham Committee is the same as it was last year, "please use any extra cash to sort out anomalies!" This would of course make future restructuring easier. The extra cash should surely go to heads and deputy heads in primary schools who earn less than a Scale 3 teacher - that is, heads group 1 and deputy heads groups 1-4.

I am not an expert on comparability, but should primary heads and deputy heads earn less than a lecturer Scale 1?

JR HYDE
18 Roslyn Close
Brixton

The hardest cut

Sir - I am writing in anger at your patronizing editorial on April 27. Your message of "look before you leap", accept 4.5 per cent and don't "engage in an unnecessary and unreasonable series of strikes and other forms of direct action against the clients, the children and their parents" is a familiar sermon. Do you really expect teachers to accept passively a cut in their living standards for yet another year? And make no mistake, 4.5 per cent is a cut.

I am heartily sick and fed up of people like you preaching at me and expecting my goodwill year after year as an endless subsidy to education. At least you had the good grace not to mention "professionalism" in your editorial.

How apt that your "No Comment" on the same page as the editor's

Letters for publication should be kept as brief as possible and typed on one side of the paper only. The Editor reserves the right to cut or amend them.

rial told the story of the teacher on a moped knocked down by a pupil driving a car. Presumably it was meant to be funny.

It was interesting to see reported on the same day as your editorial that the British Institute of Management (of which I am about to become a member with a Diploma in Management Studies) published a new survey... "Managers in 1983 gained pay rises worth 7.2 per cent compared with average increases of 7.7 per cent." The survey fears that middle managers will lose their motivation if salaries do not rise fast enough, creating inefficiency. Ninety-eight per cent of members have a company car. I wonder who the other 2 per cent are?

DENNIS BIRD
Hon Secretary
Barnet NAS/UWT
34 Alston Road
Barnet
Herts

structures, replace those textbooks that have fallen apart with use even though my pupils are genuinely caring of books, purchase all my stationery and cover all my costs such as duplicating internal examination papers and providing for the heavy usage of file paper and the like necessary for CSE course folders: in short, pay for everything from chalk to Shakespeare to commas (use of) to Sellotape. My capitulation is, it seems, about par for the course - £1.66 per pupil per year.

My department is a successful one with good examination results and solid classroom teaching only because of the dedication of my staff who are working in financially diminishing circumstances in a set of 3 1/2 mobile caravan classrooms across a playground.

Can one begin to wonder at the lack of interest in reading, the falling standards of language skills and the reduction of cultural awareness that is steadily growing in this country when the very foundation of that aspect of basic education is treated by the county councils and the government with nothing less than contempt and disdain?

Being a writer as well as a schoolmaster, the state of affairs in the teaching of English not only appals but frightens me; the future for gaining new followers for literature certainly looks grim.

If the truth be told, the staff in my school do moonlight already for their capitulation - they do it at school fetes held on Saturdays, at fund-raising PTA jamborees in the evenings and at sponsored this-'n'-that.

MARTIN BOOTH FRAL
Dragon House
Drayton
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Skill v. capacity

Sir - As Geraint Lloyd-Evans and I have both recently contributed articles to *The TES* about the inordinate emphasis on "skills" in contemporary education, it is not surprising that we have been criticized in return. Lyn Smith's behavioural response to the stimulus, however, (Talkback, April 13), contains more acrimony than argument.

This typifies the very thing my article was concerned to lament in the sphere of educational debate - stock argument and shoddy thinking. Neither Lloyd-Evans nor I have claimed that children require no guidance in acquiring skills. What we have objected to is the founding of educational empires upon a crude reductionism that represents all affective responses or capacities as mere knacks (thus to be transmitted via "systems" and behavioural checklists).

Ms Smith's failure to receive this central point is evidenced in her plea for "a more eclectic attitude" and in her misplaced truism: "surely any method is only as good as the person implementing it". Let us be generous enough to construe her phrase "eclectic attitude" as referring not to mindless pragmatism but to a willingness to be exploratory and experimental in the classroom.

Good enough; but this is the very thing the all-pervasive skills-approach does not permit, with its totalitarian aspirations and empiricist doctrines of human development (which of course hardly purport to be true on some days and false on others!) It is of course true that teaching methods are as fallible as their purveyors but that makes, not breaks, my point.

My article was predicated upon the belief that teaching does not have the petty certainties of indoctrination but is a hit-and-miss affair; an art, not a science. What role has eclecticism and a healthy sense of uncertainty in the current taxonomy of behavioural treasures writ large in what is now becoming the bureaucratic mechanism of the curriculum?

Anyone who attempts to rebel against the current orthodoxy for packaged performances (seen at their height in pre-vocational courses) runs the risk of being dismissed as an unscientific muddle, a political activist, a member of a lunatic fringe or as someone who has the negative brand of personality-deficiencies Ms Smith ascribes to me. Her use of the term "inflexible" belongs to the language-game of manipulators who can neither abide the eclecticism she claims to revere nor tolerate the unstructured chaos of teacher autonomy her strictures presuppose.

The intransigence she rashly diagnoses on my part would be more justly located in the current educational trends that threaten our children. These trends, which surreptitiously pay homage to scientism and to sophistry, sustain themselves on depressingly narrow aims, on a spurious portrayal of the relation between teacher and pupil as that of simple cause to simple effect and on estimates of pupils' abilities that are meagre, pessimistic and, above all, downright cynical.

FRANK PALMER
Deputy Head of English
Barnhill School
Hayes
Middlesex

Language hope

Sir - Marie Lamoche (Letters, April 20) in trotting out the tired old warhorse of taking foreign language teaching out of the schools and confining it to post-school language centres because "our pupils do not wish to learn a first foreign language let alone a second one" is both defeatist and wrong.

Has she not read Buckley's evaluation of the York/Leeds graded objectives scheme, Freedman's study of the Midlands one, Harrison's Schools Council Bulletin 41 or any of the many journal articles now available? They show, *inter alia*, that, given relevant assessing them, British pupils are indeed motivated to learn foreign languages. How else does she account for the transformation of a two-thirds drop-out at option time into a two-thirds take-up in so many schools where graded objectives

schemes operate?

Does she believe, for example, that those hundreds of Lancashire teachers who, this year, will administer tests to 100,000 pupils in a scheme which has cost them enormous amounts of their spare time over years to devise, do not know from their own experience that it's worthwhile?

Come on, Marie, cheer up! We're at the beginning of the process of turning the British into a nation of successful language learners and you haven't noticed yet.

As to her original objection to my point that "second language learning is not dying because of some natural law" that needs to be said is why does mathematics, a subject which many pupils find difficult, not lack customers? If modern languages had the support of society and curriculum planners that mathematics has, there wouldn't be a problem.

BRIAN PAOE
University of Leeds

'Unteachable' nonsense

Staff see A-level history of art as 'unteachable'

by Hilary Wilce

An angry A-level "history of art" syllabus, according to a survey of 100 teachers, is "virtually unteachable". But I want to ask, unteachable by whom?

Un-teachable to whom? It is quite certain that the art history A-level syllabuses of the Associated Examining Board and London University cannot be taught adequately by any one not prepared to accept the rigour of a complex and difficult field; nor to any pupil who has no taste for wide reading, hard looking, and disciplined thought. This may suit comparatively few pupils and even fewer teachers; but to state categorically that the existing history of art A-level examinations are unteachable, and to single out Peter and Linda Murray and their "dull syllabuses" as scapegoats is in my view irresponsible.

And what on earth is meant by the criticism that these syllabuses "stress the study of the development of visual styles at the expense of studying individual works and artists"? It is only through a study of the individual (for which the A-level candidate receives ample encouragement - extending even to Chertsey, the Parthenon and the Sistine Chapel!) that any notion of stylistic evolution may be gained. Without such a notion there could be no such thing as a study of the history of art.

A test of the mastery of any academic discipline is the ability to draw general conclusions from particular instances. The general and the particular are interdependent; they can never represent alternative approaches. I can only hope that any draft reformed syllabus which may eventually come to the examination boards will make more sense than does your correspondent's paraphrasing.

I myself made a contribution to the Essex University conference in 1983. In my paper, I argued for a broader view of art history in schools, for approaches compatible with the wide



range of abilities and aptitudes of secondary school pupils. I made the same case in an article in *The TES* (April 29, 1983). There is an urgent need for such approaches (and an investigation of automobile design or garden cities might well be entailed in them). But such approaches would complement rather than supplant the carefully devised - and, incidentally, continually revised - A-level courses. These continue to be appropriate to the needs of a certain type of pupil. Of the AEB scripts I help to scrutinize each year, many are excellent and are quite obviously the outcome of enthusiastic study and diligent teaching.

There are of course other routes, and I am as keen as anybody to see them opened up; but those who choose this particular path to academic fulfilment must - and do - accept its pains as well as its pleasures.

ANTHONY DYSON
Chairman
Standing Advisory Committee in
History of Art
Associated Examining Board
Wellington House
Aldershot

value for money

Sir - Why is it that you find it necessary to link arms with the Left by mocking local education authorities like Dudley, West Midlands, which make an effective attempt to get value for the tax and ratepayers' money? Is the pound in your pocket somehow essentially different to the one out of the public purse?

The Diary item, "Spending money to try to save it", (TES, April 20) suggests that low-spending Dudley is run by fools with no interest in the needs of schools and who waste money on another rapacious bunch, Price Waterhouse.

What misleading nonsense this! In We in Dudley have one of the most cost effective i.e.s in the country, resulting in an efficient education

service and low rates. Undoubtedly the business acumen of Price Waterhouse has played a part in this, so they should be complimented not jeered.

Reference to the DES Statistical Bulletin 16/83 issued last December proves my point. The percentage of school leavers in Dudley gaining CSE and O Level higher grade passes is not only higher than the West Midlands average, but 6 per cent higher than the expected figure adjusted for socio-economic factors. The value-for-money aspect is even more dramatic if Dudley's figures are compared with high spending authorities like the ILEA. For more than half as much again per secondary pupil, a less than expected 40 per cent get one or more passes compared with Dudley's 54 per cent.

If every local authority reduced

waste as successfully as Dudley, perhaps the lighter rates burden would help industry to expand, thus providing more jobs for our leavers and laying the golden eggs on which the public sector depends.

DAVID S GALE
43 Halesowen Road
Dudley
West Midlands

Dudley supportive

Sir - You really have "got it in" for Dudley Metropolitan Borough Authority (TES, April 20).

Mike Durham names Dudley as a low-spending authority per capita for secondary education, but at the same time does not name a number of other

lower spending authorities who are thus not, by implication, pilloried in the way that Dudley is.

In recent years, Dudley has increased its secondary per capita expenditure by a higher percentage than many other authorities.

Until my recent retirement, I was the higher education nominee on the governing body of a large Dudley comprehensive school and I can testify to a very responsible and supportive attitude by the authority to its schools, notwithstanding pejorative throw-away comments from people like Mike Durham.

A S CLARK
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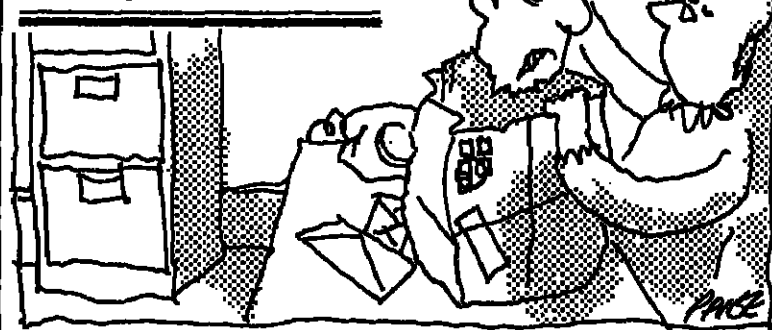
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JOHN PEASE



Many years ago I was the deputy head of a small primary school with a salary augmented by a merit teacher allowance. With a first headship went an increase over my existing income of 15 shillings per week and the ever present worry of nursing a 10-year-old Ford Popular over a journey of 40 miles a day. The already frugal standard of living for my family fell dramatically. Even with stringent economies and working during the holidays we found it difficult to aspire to Mr Micawber's definition of happiness.

If all this had been to take a job as a probationary headteacher I would never have bothered – and that is even more true today.

Present differentials in salary are again so small that many teachers already feel that the minute step up the promotional ladder is not worth the massively increased involvement, responsibility to the community and pressure from vested interests.

Not all governors are altruistic – and it would only be natural for some to expect favoured treatment for their children at a school. Not all local political appointees to a governing body recognize as sacrosanct that they should meet solely in the interests of the children. Not all parents value maintaining a curriculum beyond the basic nor see as undesirable a completely formal day for a six-year-old.

Not all local groups are reasonable in demanding community access to site and building despite limitations dictated by cleaning and security.

The chance of failure for a probationary head would not be small for this diminished status would be known to all. Where would be the authority for dealing with community pressures, pupil and staff discipline, internal organization, and acceptance by advisers, parents and governors? The temptation would always be there to be a straw in the wind. What value the judgment of one far seeing director of education who said that headteachers were appointed to fight for the children in their care – if necessary against the authority?

It is true that headteachers have some security in post – but this does not give carte blanche on conduct. Disciplinary procedures apply to all teachers, and this includes dismissal. Should falling rolls end in school closure, there is no guaranteed re-employment. Any former job would have been long filled, and any future post within an authority could only be filled with the accord of some governing body. No i.e.a. would impose a displaced headteacher.

How much more precarious a probationary head risking all on a two-year gamble? Teachers act in loco parentis to the children within their care – but teachers have wives and children and it is only right, proper and human that their overriding duty should be to them.

If you were relying on a single teacher's income for the welfare and financial stability of a family, then you would be well advised to remain in the classroom, work contractual hours, and – like many teachers in the United States of America – augment your poor salary by secondary employment.

John Pease is a primary school head.

Mapping out bias

JOHN MORRIS

Andy Schofield's article, "Fostering Delusions?" (TES Extra, April 13) touches upon the fundamental purpose of curriculum development, the promotion of change in classroom practice.

However, to suggest that the co-directors of the *Geography for the Young School Leaver* project evade discussion of ideology, or issues related to development, or multi-cultural education is erroneous and based upon faulty assumptions about the philosophy and usage of the project.

The essentials of Mr Schofield's misunderstanding can be seen in the sentence, "The syllabus relies upon the implicit assumption that the teacher will put across ideas to counter the quite obvious bias." In fact GYSL does not rely upon such a didactic style of teaching. The project encourages the exploration of a key idea, on concept. Students accept the notion of

a particular hypothesis by testing its apparent truth. Frequently, ideas are modified, or even rejected as being inappropriate.

Behind this approach is a belief that all materials are value-loaded, and open to interpretation. It is not sufficient to "put across ideas to counter... bias", for this merely substitutes one form of indoctrination for another. Autonomy for each individual can only be achieved through a response to social pressures introduced via a number of active learning situations. This "open-ended" approach may not produce the results which one may like, or expect.

The aims of the project support a belief in the autonomy of the class teacher, the person best suited to develop learning experiences for his or her own students. In fact, the aim was, "not only to develop innovative styles of learning and teaching, but enable teachers to plan their own curriculum more effectively." (Schools Council).

Published materials have been regarded as supplementary to those produced by an individual school or curriculum group. The *Geography and Change* series should be evaluated with as much suspicion as any other resource. Mr Schofield has missed the point, such texts do not reflect a problem of identifying an ideological

stance, they represent the consequences of a powerful examination system which seems unable to generate more than superficial change.

However, Mr Schofield's comment, saying the project has neglected development of classroom practice. Local curriculum groups have received insufficient attention as investigations have been concentrated in supporting examination structure which, despite the improvements introduced by the Avery Hill 14-16 project, remains a narrow method of assessment. To many local curriculum groups have wasted time replicating CSE mode submissions, or producing examination papers which are little different from one part of the country to another. Few local groups have received the levels of resourcing which have enabled the sorts of developments seen in ILEA and Sheffield.

The challenges for GYSL remain the need to reduce the quantity of information expected to be acquired by our students, and the need of all to cooperate in the design of more "open" learning experiences. Perhaps the time has arrived for GYSL to provide a fresh initiative.

John Morris is head of social and business studies at Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form College, Birmingham.

Vertical hold

DENNIS CARTER

How refreshing to read your report of Jan Lee's survey about vertical grouping in primary schools (TES April 13). Perhaps HM Inspectors will look again now at their highly dubious findings which have done so much damage at a time of shrinking rolls in the schools.

As Jan Lee points out, children are bound to do less well in mixed age classes if these are ad hoc arrangements cobbled together by headteachers who don't believe in vertical grouping. Such arrangements are now inevitable and it is a matter of extreme urgency that HMI apply its energy and resources to training headteachers in the management of this situation. There is no reason on earth why "amazing administrative gymnastics" need be performed by harassed heads every July. Once a head and the staff believe in vertical grouping it is the simplest and most logical form of organization ever devised.

My own junior school is a case in

point. Our classes have been reduced from eight to six during the past six years and in September to five. Because we believe in vertical grouping we first divided lower juniors and upper juniors each by three to make three equal classes of each. My present piece of arithmetic is just as straightforward. One class will consist of the full age range (7-11) and the others of lower juniors (two classes) and upper juniors (two classes). All this will create no problem because our teaching techniques have been so developed that it is the individual rather than the class as such that matters.

Like many teachers who have learned from pioneers such as Sybil Marshall, we believe that children learn not only from teachers but also from the wide range of contacts and relationships which they make in school. They learn a great deal from each other. The older child showing or explaining something to the younger child learns greatly through being forced to give shape to the idea or concept or skill. This is a crucial latter stage of the learning process. The act of explaining something that you have learned to someone else is also an important context for language development to take place in. The younger child is obviously benefiting by having an extra teacher.

Many experiences and skills can be shared in this way in the workshop of the family grouped classroom with the

teacher as master craftsman, the older child as journeyman and the younger child as apprentice. This, I must stress, does not mean that younger children rely entirely on older children for their teaching. The teacher has an equal commitment to teach every child directly.

What it does mean is that the range of opportunities for every child is greatly widened. This is particularly in the area of social development. Every child has the opportunity to learn from the older children. The difficulties in age the needs of competition is blunted as children realize that other children's achievement is important to them. This inevitably leads to a lessening of aggression and to a happy atmosphere in the school. This has been the case in our school, where I can honestly say that fights are very rare indeed.

The time has surely come for HMI to launch a fresh initiative as a result of Mr Lee's findings. This time it should not merely be an objective survey but a study of the needs of children and their parents' needs and feelings and merely tests children's performance in certain limited tasks. This time HMI must go to schools which believe in vertical grouping. There are many of them throughout the country, but good starting points are Oxfordshire and Cheshire.

Dennis Carter is head of Taliesin Junior School, Shotton, Chwyd.

Ours not to reason what

Local authority guidelines on what should be taught free teachers to concentrate on how best to teach it, Joan Dean argues



In my experience the quality of the teaching profession has been gradually improving in all the years that I have been going in and out of schools. I totally disagree with those who have ever been, which is far from saying that they are perfect. There is still an enormous amount to do, but I remain convinced that our thinking of the 1960s and 1970s was right.

Where I think my views have changed to some extent is in what I now think it reasonable to expect from teachers. We are probably asking too much when we ask them not only to teach the curriculum but to design it as well.

Teachers in this country have more freedom over curriculum matters than almost any country in the world. This has enabled us to produce some of the best schools to be found anywhere, but I also suspect that it makes it possible for us to have some of the worst. What we need is the kind of support that does nothing to hold back the really good school, but does something to support the weak.

During the half-term break last autumn, I visited Sweden, basically in order to look at the work they have done in training headteachers. During my visit I went to a primary school in the city of Örebro. It was a school in what we would describe as a council estate, a rather bleak environment with many children with difficult home backgrounds. It was in many ways one of the most exciting school visits I have experienced and in spite of the language difficulties I felt entirely at home because the ethos of the school was so familiar.

It was exciting in the same way that it is exciting to visit a good primary school in this country. You get caught up in the work of the school and the interests of the children and teachers and start to share their enthusiasms.

The teachers and children together were in the process of building into the entrance hall two small shops, each with a pitched roof and built on a child-sized scale. One of them was already being used for children to purchase against their class budget whatever materials they needed. This was simply an opportunity for practical mathematics and for ensuring that children were careful with what they had.

I saw slides of the work they had done in building a hut for outdoor activities and was impressed with the quality of workmanship – it wasn't a ready-made hut but a genuine piece of building by children and teachers, using the activity for their learning in many different ways.

The deputy head and one other member of staff spoke fluent English and I was interested to see that their classes were left to work independently – which they did extremely well – while they helped a few of the children whose English was more advanced to entertain me. I sat at lunch with the children and we exhausted the stock language questions like "what is your name?" "Where do

you live?" and "How old are you?" The children, for their part, did their best to teach me the Swedish equivalents.

The reason why I am describing this in such detail is that I am talking of a school in a system where a broad curriculum is laid down centrally, where you "do" English from the third year onwards and where some topics are prescribed. So far as I could see this particular school found this no limitation. Teachers developed topic work just as we do. Field study seemed to play a large part in the curriculum of this school and they used it in very similar ways to our own.

All in all, it changed my views of the limitations which some guidance on curriculum from the centre produces. It seems that if you get the guidance right, it supports teachers rather than limiting them.

I'm not sure that I want to go as far as a nationally produced curriculum, but I do welcome the rush of guidelines now being produced in different I.e.a.s. I think we need to spend a great deal of time and thought on the curriculum at the primary stage, leaving teachers free to concentrate on how to help children to learn. I think there is a case for suggesting that children are entitled to learn certain things and I don't think there would be too much disagreement about what they might be.

The area in which we have moved most towards the things we were aiming for in the early 1970s is in the much greater concern now with concepts and skills rather than factual knowledge. Much of the guideline material we are producing in Surrey is concerned with concepts and skills and although the factual knowledge is there, it plays a less important part.

We have become more aware of the need to be concerned with the basic structure of subject learning, even if we are not always entirely sure what it is. If we take, for example, some of the concepts of environmental study we might be concerned with the geographical concept that the physical environment affects the way of life of people living in any community. We might take a study of a local village or a town like Reading and look beyond the factual information to questions like "Why did Reading develop here?" "Why is it still growing so fast?" "What difference does it make to people living here that Reading has such a good train service to other places, including London?" Such a theme might be part of work about any community past or present. It might involve drama about a roving community looking for a place to settle down. The need to establish the basic concept leaves enormous areas of study wide open and yet guides the teacher in choosing an area for study.

It is this kind of guidance that we need in planning children's learning. Joan Dean is Chief Inspector for Surrey. This article is based upon part of a talk given at the Open Plan Primary School conference at East-hampstead Park College.

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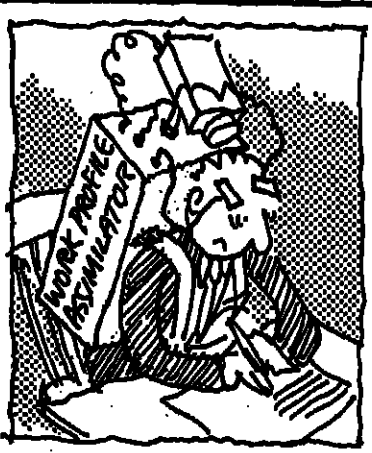
Own goals

DAVID HAYNES

The DES has received over 2,000 replies to the Record of Achievement statement issued by Sir Keith Joseph in November last year. Initially profiles were seen very much as a product – a substitute for externally validated examination certificates suitable for less able pupils. Sir Keith Joseph stresses the need for a document containing information which throws light on personal achievement; any graded results in public examinations; and any other evidence of academic achievement.

He states quite clearly that this document should be available to all pupils on completion of their school career, but throughout the statement the emphasis is on the availability of a summative product. It is this approach which, as a teacher, concerns me.

Through our desire to provide this summative product at the end of a pupil's school career, it is possible to ignore the process by which the information is obtained. If we do this it could become a bureaucratic form-filling exercise, albeit under the guise of providing a more accurate and fairer appraisal of pupils' abilities. If we ignore the process, then to many of our pupils the product will be meaningless. Traditional forms of externally validated certification rely heavily on the middle-class concept of deferred gratification – an approach of little relevance to many of our pupils in the



light of the current employment situation, and it is here where the process involved in good profiling becomes important. As Barbara Pearce, deputy director of the Leeds University Counselling and Career Development Unit wrote in 1983:

"To be effective a profiling system needs to include three elements: 1. a system of personal progress records kept by the student; 2. a reviewing system between the student and an adult tutor; 3. a final profile report for which the recording and reviewing system provides evidence."

It is the process which is involved in this "ideal" profile format which is perhaps the most difficult for teachers to accept; if however we ignore this formative side of profiling – providing pupils with aims and objectives for course content, and an opportunity to participate in the assessment of their progress – then the true potential of profiling will not be realised.

To be successful this process has to be firmly rooted within the curriculum and teaching methodology in the school. Profiling is much more than recording achievement in individual subject areas. It is concerned with cross-curricular skills as well as subject specific performance, and it is diagnostic as well as developmental. If teachers or pupils are asked to make assessments then the curriculum must afford the pupils the opportunity to learn and demonstrate what is to be assessed.

The climate in schools has undoubtedly changed in recent years. The didactic teaching which in the past proved successful and perhaps contributed to what Michael Young called "the rise of the meritocracy" is no longer relevant to the majority of our pupils in school. The goals which it worked to achieve – CSE, O level, A level, job – no longer hold true. Perhaps the processes involved in successful profiling – where pupils own the product they are working towards – can restore some of the enjoyment and purpose in education which the economic climate outside school has helped to destroy.

As Carkuff said in 1976: "We grow as human beings if we know how to explore where we are, understand where we want to be, and act upon how to get there. And facilitate the exploration, understanding, and action of others. Unable to do so, we are left only as life's observers and not as life's participants."

Is there a better argument than this for profiling in our schools?

David Haynes is a teacher seconded to the CCU at Leeds University to write a book on profiling as a guide for teachers in Yorkshire.

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Only in the important matters of salaries and holidays do easy comparisons begin to fade. A teacher's salary ranges between £6,000 and £7,000. A Group 1 head-teacher from £10,572 to

Nursing a grievance

Lois Benyon says hospital sisters work harder and have more responsibility than primary heads but have far worse pay and conditions

Recently, I spent seven long weeks in an orthopaedic ward in a pleasant hospital in outer Liverpool. Able to do little whilst I sat on my back, I had long spells in which to watch how Ward X2 was run, observe the daily (and nightly) routines, consider what kept it functioning and above all compare and contrast the people who served the patients.

Since for the past five years my work has been concerned with the training of primary headteachers in the north-west of England, it was natural to compare what I saw with that which happens in schools. Ward X2 was run during the day by a dynamic Liverpoolian of 32, 4ft 10ins of immense skill and knowledge, wit, energy and whose all sympathy and loving kindness for everyone from 15 to 97.

Similarities between her work and that of the primary head were obvious: the comparatively youthful age at which responsibility is assumed, length of training (an initial three-year course plus certificates and diplomas in midwifery, district nursing and orthopaedics), the size of establishment over which command exists (nurses, auxiliaries, cleaners and ward orderlies).

In the course of a year even patient numbers on a 27-bed ward must compare with the number of pupils on roll in the average Group IV or Group V school. Given that each patient has relatives and friends with whom contact is made, here too, some comparison can be made with home-school links.

Only in the important matters of salaries and holidays do easy comparisons begin to fade. A teacher's salary ranges between £6,000 and £7,000. A Group 1 head-teacher from £10,572 to

£11,784. Of holidays and length of working days, I dare not write.

But how did the work of Sister M as manager of the ward, compare with that of a primary head?

The task in Ward X2 was simple and absolutely precise; it was to get people better. Everything was organized to this end. The straightforward message to patients was that nursing care was there to supplement and bring to a successful outcome the operations which were performed in the first instance by the doctors.

Unlike primary teachers and heads, the nurses were not working on several fronts at once. For example, no one cared about the morality of patients and only one nurse considered it her duty to get patients to say "please" and "thank you". Working on a narrow front, the management task was thus made simpler.

Reward, also, was much more visible than in a school. Patients, by and large, got better, some slowly, some amazingly and all with immense gratitude to staff. Measurable success certainly helped staff to cope with the very heavy physical demands of an orthopaedic ward. Compare this, with say, the slow progress of a backward reader.

But no matter how grateful patients were, every patient wanted to go home. What would primary teachers and heads feel, if, at the end of every day, all the children in the school could think of, was how to escape by the quickest means possible?

The needs of individual nurses seemed, by and large, to be subsumed into the needs of the team within which nurses worked. The team was all important; all organization centred upon it. And organization was very tight. Team A worked one side of the ward and Team B the other. This

worked for the team and with the team and with Sister M leading in front. Once a nursing routine had been agreed within the hospital, no one, not even a registrar, was allowed to alter it.

So where was the professional autonomy so prized by primary teachers? Within the working day of Ward X2, there was little room for choice. Authority reigned supreme and the only visible style of leadership was that of telling and ordering. Like the army, democracy had a very low profile.

Closer analysis of the sister's managerial role reveals that, like headteachers, many of her tasks were initiated by others.

Patients were sent to Ward X2 from central admissions. There was no control by Sister M over which patients arrived. Nor was there control about their treatment. Sister's job was to carry out the instructions of consultants, registrars and junior doctors. Some of these might ask for an opinion but the eventual nursing task would be determined not by sister but by the surgical staff.

Though a primary head may grumble at the inordinate number of his/her tasks which are initiated by others (caretakers, police, vandals, dinner ladies and staff) they are still able to choose by what methods they get children to learn. Professional on-the-spot judgment is still permitted.

The daily routine of the ward was hustle and bustle but the trade was not only of words but of actions – dressings, medication and bedmaking. But where these were accompanied by skilled, kindly, helpful verbal interaction, how much happier the patient felt. Not only did sister talk to

patients, she trained her staff to do so too. Then also, there were the directions given by sister, either short and peremptory if an emergency loomed, or with more care, if time permitted.

But patients and nurses were continually heard to say "Sister said..." What sister said mattered to everyone, was remembered and acted upon. How far are headteachers' words weighed, balanced, judged and deemed important? Ambulant at the end of seven weeks, I found a young staff nurse of 23 in charge of the ward that day, crying quietly in the sluice room.

"They are all on at me today and I can't stand it any more", was the complaint. Thus sister's stand-in summed up the happenings of that day.

Ted Wrang in *Swineshead Revisited* says "One inescapably stressful aspect of teaching is the sheer volume of human contacts during the day. Shop assistants, policemen, waiters and telephonists can experience the same sense of over-stimulation of the nervous system". I would add nursing staff to this list. Certainly on Ward X2, Sister M must have experienced gross over-stimulation in her contacts with doctors, nurses, administrative staff, support staff, ward orderlies and patients alike. Every minute of her working day was a "give" situation.

Physically harder than a primary head's job, emotionally draining, dicing with life and death, badly paid and with short holidays, piggy-in-the-middle for much of the time; who would be a nursing sister? At least primary heads now know how fortunate they are.

Lois Benyon is assistant director of the North West Educational Management Centre, Warrington.

Family of nations

It is 25 years since the British Pestalozzi Children's Village in Sussex opened its doors to the orphans of the European war. Now, Susan Thomas reports, it provides the Swiss humanitarian's education of 'hand, heart and head' to the brightest children of the developing nations.

In the aftermath of the Napoleonic Wars, when Europe was full of destitute children, Heinrich Pestalozzi, the Swiss humanitarian, devised a plan to offer them home, family and an education in world citizenship. In the event it took 150 years and two world wars before it was realized at Trogen in Switzerland.

That was 1946. The British village didn't open until 1959. It too catered for European war orphans, often stateless refugees culled from the camps of Europe. The children lived in an old manor house at Sedlescombe, near Battle. Each national group had its own housemother whose job was to preserve language, culture and religious beliefs. In term-time they attended English schools, colleges and universities and in their free time worked and played together, Poles and Germans, English and Latvians.

But by 1963 the Europeans had grown up and the refugees came from Tibet, Vietnam, and the West Bank. It was time to think again, says Bill Mountain, the director of studies who is responsible for recruiting the children. The Swiss dedicated their village to their own needy children and the British, boldly experimental, offered education to the developing nations.

Only to bright, poor children, however, whose



Next, intensive enquiries are made about the family - is it happy, stable and large enough to forego one of its children for the 11 years an English education may take? Finally, shortage children are interviewed with their parents.

Past experience has shown that only children's youngest children and even children who are single at the village, have more trouble settling. The housemothers too must be sure of the role in life and able to inculcate traditional values.

"A mother who is in revolt against the system is a disturbing influence. We educate the children the attitudes and skills of their own country without that they will have nothing to offer their own people. If they want to rebel they can do when they get home."

So long as nobody rocks the boat all goes well. Homesickness, though surprisingly rare, he said is usually brought on by family problems or political disruption at home. Thus when the political situation in Nigeria became unstable, the numbers were gradually run down and the Nigerian house replaced by a Nepalese unit.

"The political stability of a country, the reliability of its internal communications and the usefulness of an English education to its people are prime factors when a new house is being considered", says Bill Mountain. "This rules out the South American nations even though the needs are all too evident. If we succeed with the appeal we will probably open a new African house and another Indian one."

The result of all this careful planning is a warm, immensely caring, family group which reflects the child's own extended family. Thus the 10-year-old Indian boy just arrived at the village, welcomed in traditional style, absorbed into the family, introduced to the other nationalities in the village, started on language classes and set to work digging the footings of a new workshop.

It is no part of the plan to soften and westernize the children. "We try to have the same expectations of them that their families would have," says Bruce Jefferson, the village's PR man, a new recruit surprised to find that the boy was selling sweets on the street to supplement the family income.

"Here they put in long hours, without super-

families could never give them a secondary education and who have the qualities their communities most need. They come to England when they are 10 and stay till they have completed their education. Every two or three years they go home to visit their families.

They live, in groups of 8 or 12, in plain, single storey houses scattered across the rolling Sussex hills. In term time they attend local schools and in the evenings and holidays they do the household and farm chores and learn metalwork, carpentry, bricklaying and first aid. It is a six-and-a-half-day week and causes sothearted English supporters some considerable heartsearching but the children thrive on it.

"The biggest difference, after the food and the weather", a cheerful 15-year-old Thai boy told me "is that I have so much more time to play here than at home."

Food tends to be English and convenience: fishfingers and baked beans are par for the course, perhaps with a dash of curry. But at weekends there is time to prepare national dishes and on festival days they wear national costume and celebrate in the traditional way, inviting one of the other houses to share the occasion.

Since 1963 dozens of young Arabs, Indians, Nigerians, Tibetans and Thais have completed their education here and gone home to work as scientists, agricultural engineers, teachers, doctors and nurses. The experiment has worked and this year the village is celebrating its Silver Jubilee by organizing an appeal for £350,000, enough to open two more houses and educate 30 more children.

Nowadays a few of the villagers are refugees but all are from poor families in rural areas. The selection procedure is rigorous, says Bill Mountain. First the children are identified by their own teachers as self-sufficient, resourceful, born leaders and very able in maths and the native language.

"Maths," he explains, "because it seems a good indicator of scientific ability, and scientists and technicians are what their countries need, and linguistic skills to enable them to benefit from an education in a foreign language and become good

sion. The national houses were actually built by 14 to 16-year-olds, so was much of the furniture and nearly all the maintenance is done by the children. It is all part of their education, like the alternative technology - making building materials, windmills, water pumps or battery chargers out of scrap materials. Every child leaves here with a knowledge of mechanics, craft skills, animal husbandry and community hygiene."

They are also, as Valerie Ballard, director of studies at nearby Claverham Community College, explained "very high-minded young people who work extremely hard at their studies and are very conscious of their responsibility to their family and country."

They play for their school teams, dance in local festivals, get to sing on Paul McCartney's recent hit single and in Canterbury Cathedral.

It is quite a relief after all this to find they still have time to watch *Top of the Pops* and read *Mills and Boon*.

In recent years the children have arrived here in time to spend a year mastering English before starting secondary school. They attend St Leonards Primary School at Hastings which has a specialist EFL unit. According to John Wilks, headmaster, they have surprisingly little trouble doing this or settling into the school.

"In fact, they are so motivated, that they are a pleasure to teach... some are just very able, others unquestionably brilliant", he says. "Whatever method is used to select these children, it is extraordinarily efficient. They provide a valuable yardstick for our children to measure themselves against."

But it has not always been plain sailing. In the early days they plunged straight into secondary school and English was a major problem. "Hindu seem to have no definite or indefinite articles and Tibetans no verbs," said Valerie Ballard. "I suspect their preference for science is partly explained by language difficulties and partly it is because they are always looking over their shoulders to see what their country needs."

For the same reason, says Bill Mountain, fewer children now go on to degree courses. "There is a graduate unemployment problem in the Third World too. And the poorest, most deprived people don't need an intellectual elite. They want all-rounders, middle management, technicians, agricultural engineers, people who can help a village to build a road, purify the water or set up a school."

So the emphasis has shifted to sandwich degrees, TBC courses, community medicine and that international growth industry, electronics. And if the students over hanker after self-indulgent, non-vocational courses, they don't let it show.

"They are expected to work hard, to cooperate with one another, to use problem solving in every aspect of their lives and always to give a



responsible and adult response to what is asked of them and 95 per cent of the time they do. It contrasts starkly with the expectations and behaviour of the English children I used to teach."

Bill Mountain is convinced this maturity is the product of the extended family system. "At home the child has this huge family, literally scores of aunts and uncles and cousins. Nearly all the people they relate to are adults. There is not the same expectation of an extended and carefree childhood. They work from a very tender age and with every piece of genuine work they do, they take another step into adulthood. This seems to allow them to miss out on the traumas of adolescence, probably because it is such a gradual transition from child to adult."

Further information about the Pestalozzi Village Trust is available from The Administrator, Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust, Sedlescombe, Battle, East Sussex. Speakers, slide and video packs are available on request.



Exam nerves

Sara Parker reports on attempts to ease the stress on candidates by helping them to relax

Just before her O levels, Anne went to the doctor suffering from examination nerves. She had worked herself up into such a state that she couldn't sleep and was complaining of headaches and stomach ailments.

Her GP offered her tranquilizers but she was afraid they would affect her ability to work. In the end, she settled for sleeping pills, only to find they made her dozy and depressed until she eventually had to stop taking them.

Anne is typical of many young patients who visit the surgery of Northamptonshire GP Dr Peter Heaney around examination time. For some, like her, failure seems to be directly linked to nerves - she passed only two out of her seven O levels, much to the disappointment and surprise of her teachers.

Dr Heaney, however, doesn't have much faith in pills to relieve such stress. He prefers to teach young patients how to cope with examination nerves. His methods include relaxation exercises and self-hypnosis, and over the past four years, he has started to introduce his techniques into local schools.

His ideal is to run short courses of five to six lectures and demonstrations with small groups of around half a dozen pupils - and although he has no proof that his methods directly affect examination results, he does know that they help with stress.

"I am well aware of exam stress. I was seeing it every day in the surgery and I wanted to bring it more into the open, so more teachers would realize what was happening," says Dr Heaney who ran his first course at Thomas Becket Upper School in Northampton where he is a governor.

Almost immediately, he found that pupils who had not been sleeping or were suffering from headaches and other vague ailments were both getting off to sleep at nights and feeling much better in themselves.

For some schools, however, there is no time for more than just one lecture and demonstration, or they are too far outside Dr Heaney's immediate area for him, as a busy GP, to make more than one visit.

Luton Sixth Form College in Bedfordshire first invited him to give a lunch-time talk after its welfare officer heard about his work. Recently, he came back to the college for the second year running to talk as part of a health education course which had included films on stress as part of its earlier programme. The numbers interested had more than doubled to 200 pupils and nearly 50 teachers also wanted to attend.

Even with such numbers and a venue in a large hall, Dr Heaney's approach was to create as informal an atmosphere as possible. This year, his wife, Madeleine, a yoga teacher for the past six years, also came with him to talk the pupils through the relaxation exercises, once he had explained the reasons for stress and the effect it can have on the mind and body.

"One's got to be practical and say to the pupils 'you're going to manage but you've got to develop some skills to cope with your nerves'."

They are shown how to recognize the symptoms of stress, such as headaches, upset stomachs, crying fits. "But at the same time they have to accept that some stress is absolutely necessary," says Madeleine Heaney who is becoming more involved in her husband's work, taking some of the groups for relaxation exercises in schools where a course is possible.

Dr Heaney's techniques, developed with the help of his wife along the lines of yoga exercises, are straightforward enough to be practised just sitting in a chair - as Madeleine Heaney demonstrated with the audience of pupils and teachers at Luton.

He believes that such exercises should be practised regularly and that eventually it will take only a minute to relax completely by working through the routine - a useful technique to be carried out in a quiet corner just before an examination or when it's impossible to get to sleep at night after an evening's revision.

In addition, he advises against working for long stretches without a break or right up until the last moment, suggests how to create the correct working environment, shutting out the outside world with, for example, music, and talks about the importance of hobbies and sport.

As well as the work he does in schools, he also takes small groups of youngsters who have come individually to him for surgery for help. Having studied hypnosis six years ago through a short course at the Whitington Hospital in London run by the British Dental and Medical Hypnosis

Association, he is also able to teach self-hypnosis with small groups. This technique, he says, is merely an extension of the relaxation exercises which can achieve almost immediate help with nerves in a matter of seconds.

Yet in spite of what is essentially a medical approach to the problem of examination nerves, Dr Heaney maintains: "A lot of what I'm saying and doing is nothing special. A lot of teachers have been doing it in their own way for years. I remember one of my teachers who used to come into the classroom and do nothing for the first five minutes, allowing us to talk and settle down. She was giving us a chance to let off steam and relax. But it is important that teachers understand how their methods can be used to help with stress - that they understand what they're doing - and why."

At Luton Sixth Form College, with over 1,300 students, at least a dozen are identified every year as having severe examination nerves - a few are so bad that they are even referred through the college doctor to one of two local consultant psychiatrists who specialize in such problems.

Some teachers in the college also believe something should be done for those pupils who although not suffering badly enough to attract help, are still affected by examination nerves. Jan Booker, vice principal, says, "We are deluding ourselves if we think that any candidate takes O or A levels without suffering from stress. It's all really a matter of degree... Dr Heaney has very practical tips to offer and a good understanding of the problems of those who are not doing themselves justice in the public examination system because of nerves."

Some students will never admit to examination nerves; 17-year-old Rohit, studying for two A levels, says: "I'd never have gone up to a teacher and said 'look I've failed because I'm nervous'. I just presume everyone's got the same problem. But when I go into the exam room, my mind goes blank."

For some, however, the problem is all too obvious, such as in the case of one 17-year-old girl who left the college after a year because she felt unable to face A level examinations even though her classwork was good. She was so nervous that she was physically sick before exams, lost weight and couldn't sleep.

Some feel the best way a teacher can help is to familiarize students with the format of the paper through mock questions and preparing them for the examination room. But some, like 17-year-old Eamon who is afraid he won't get good enough grades in his A levels to study medicine, feel no amount of familiarization can take away the nerves of the day.

"It's difficult for teachers to tell if you're going to get nervous because it hits you when you're in the exam room. You're nervous because it's a once and for all situation, the real thing. I've heard that if you revise solidly then you won't be nervous but I've never felt I've revised that solidly, however hard I've worked."

There are teachers who believe that pinpointing such nerves merely goes towards intensifying the problem, giving pupils an excuse if they fail or haven't worked hard enough.

There are others who have seen nerves take their toll on pupils such as Maureen Merrifield, a teacher in secretarial skills at Luton. She says: "When it's a two and a half hour physical stint in typing, for example, pupils show stress which is physically visible. Those who are normally dexterous become clumsy and ham-fisted - and there's always somebody in tears in the corridor outside before the exam."

Dr Heaney aims to find the balance between over-emphasizing the problem of nerves and ignoring it. "You can't give pupils an excuse for failure because of exam nerves, so you must give them an alternative - something which can unscramble their minds."

Often he feels a one-off lecture can do little more than make teachers aware of the problem - and at Luton, for example, he hopes that his relaxation exercises will be followed-up and practised by pupils with staff help. But all the same he recognizes many teachers are reluctant to use such methods in the classroom. A woman teacher at Luton College thought male teachers particularly might feel too self-conscious.

All the same, he is winning small pockets of support among teachers. One at Luton reasons, "If you spend two years flogging yourself to death trying to get these kids through an examination, it seems silly not to spend a little time doing a bit extra to help combat those nerves."

Encourage children to read and raise money for charity at the same time. **Readathon week** (May 28 to June 3) is the latest promotion idea dreamed up by Books for Students. Over 200,000 participants, from infants to university entrants, have already been enrolled by their schools for a sponsored read-in. The money they raise will go to Mencap. Contact Books for Students Ltd, 58-64 Berrington Road, Sydenham Estate, Leamington Spa CV31 1NB (0926 29341) to enrol.

Defending the world's arts

Peter Brinson at an international symposium in Banff

Thirty four artists or arts-related specialists from 12 countries assembled for four days recently at the Banff Centre in Canada's Rocky Mountains to discuss ways in which the world's artists might play a bigger role in international decision-making and defence of the world's arts.

Underlying all discussion was the issue of the arts in international communication, particularly support for the cultures and cultural integrity of developing nations in the face of superior communication technology possessed by developed nations. "Dissolution" became a conference bandwagon word. An important conclusion was the need for a cultural dimension to the Brandt Reports on aid and development. These reports have dealt with the political and economic strategies necessary to alleviate inequalities and hostility between North and South. The omission of cultural considerations in, say, North-South aid programmes often leads to the wrong kind of aid being offered in the wrong way at the wrong time. Hence the need for a third dimension to Brandt and hence, too, the emphasis given to developing nations among the Banff participants. Seven of the 12 nations related to the so-called third world - Brazil, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Papua-New Guinea, Sri Lanka and Zambia; four related to the first world - Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States; and one to the second world - Poland. If the choices seem unusual they are the result, in part, of outside consideration and influences; some who planned to attend could not get government permission and some were prevented by recent political

changes at home.

The conference was never intended to be a large affair since its task was to review theories and plans for the real thing next year. In effect it planned or laid down guidelines for an International Symposium on the Arts to be held at Banff from April 6-12 1985. Invitations will be issued to more than 200 artists from socialist and non-socialist countries, developed and developing nations to consider the issues in much greater detail and establish a framework for international action - such as scientists have developed over the last 30 years through their Pugwash international conferences and corresponding national organizations.

The Banff Centre is an extraordinary institution, having begun as a centre of continuing education serving what were then the rather remote populations of Alberta as well as visitors to the splendour of the Canadian Rockies. Today the scale is many times bigger and the emphasis on artistic standards and the artist's role in society is much greater. The centre is dedicated to developing young artists of every kind; providing a resource for those established in their careers; spreading the influence of the arts at professional standard throughout Canadian life; and to exploring the international diversity of the arts. To do this, in a setting beneath huge tree-clad mountains, it has created a remarkable complex of studios, rehearsal spaces, workshops, theatres, concert halls, galleries and conference facilities for year-round programmes little affected by winter snow or summer heat.

The recent initiative was taken to

mark the centre's fiftieth anniversary and extend its international emphasis not only in future connections but in immediate practice. Much of the preparatory research work and planning over the last 18 months was undertaken, for example, by the Research Department of the Laban Centre for Movement and Dance in South East London. Apart from assembling lists of artists of every kind around the world, the Laban responsibilities included studies of the arts in relation to new technology, especially communication technology, and studies of the influence of the arts on individual life, on national life and on international life with particular reference to the needs of developing nations.

The Symposium next year will carry these initial studies to a point where a Brandt-style report can be considered on the cultural dimension of international relations, centred on the arts. The results are likely to be challenging because it was insisted that those invited should include craftsmen and young artists as well as individuals with international stature. Unesco, which sent a welcoming telegram to Banff, will have observer status alongside other international cultural organizations. But Unesco is an organization of governments; Banff aims to produce an organization of artists across cultural and political boundaries dedicated to influence governments against wider actions which threaten the world's imaginative resources. Potentially, an alliance of artists with scientists, say, and ecologists and other environmentalists appealing direct to the public might achieve an international understanding where statesmen have failed.

Verbal Jim Nasties

Say the Word.
Heatham House Youth Theatre,
Twickenham.
The Napoleon of Notting Hill.
The Old Vic Youth Theatre at the
Jeannette Cochrane Theatre.

The letters page of *The TES* addresses itself to the major issues of the day. We've heard all about Boy George's school days; now, an answer before the really big question: did John Lennon always write like that? His two books, *In His Own Write* and *A Spaniard in the Works* turn language on its head. Were his English essays like that too?

If they were the English department of Quarry Bank Grammar School has my sympathy. *Say the Word* was a play based on the words and music of John Lennon. Largely drawn from one of his short stories, its relentless verbal gymnastics (Jim Nasties, Lennon would doubtless have called them) were ultimately as wearying as an overdose of *Finnegans Wake*.

There was no respite as troupes of imaginary characters straight out of the pages of his already voluminous poems, short stories, novels and miscellaneous works invaded the bedroom of young Henry. He was a dreamer, a Billy Liar or Walter Mitty-wack, and acted out his fantasies with the help of the anonymous visitors and - needless to say - generous dollops of Lennon's music. Young Chris Mahrle did very well as Henry in the Heatham House Youth Theatre production which was written and directed by Fabian Worsfield. The supporting cast were alright too, and of course I enjoyed the music. I only wish the script had been in English.

Notting Hill (Lennonized it would

be Not in Hell, I suppose), otherwise London W11, is where they have the carnival, where Holland Park School is situated and where I had my first London bedsit. That gives you some idea of the place. The Old Vic Youth Theatre's new adaptation of G K Chesterton's *The Napoleon of Notting Hill* wouldn't.

Taking its tone from the determined whimsy of the novel, the show was a riot of colour and seemed to be taking place in the never-never London of Dick Whittington. Although there was a sameness about much of Chuck Mallett's music (due perhaps to the accompaniment being limited to a single piano) it was tuneful enough and the cast, decked out in all manner of frock coats and Ruritanian uniforms, still coped well with the singing and dancing. David O'Donovan made more than could have been expected of the part of Auberon Quin, the electric King of London with the mind (and actions) of a six-year-old. He got his just deserts at the hands of the romantic Notting Hill hero Adam Wayne, played by Joanna Watt, although the reason for the cross-casting was never made clear.

Of the story itself little needs to be said - other than that the Old Vic Youth Theatre missed a unique opportunity. Several other youth theatres in the capital would have given their eye teeth to have come across a story involving a despotic king of London, elections that got forgotten about and a grassroots belief that everything the king did was "a ridiculous waste of taxpayers' money". There's more than a moral there somewhere, especially when one discovers that Chesterton set his story in 1984.

Hugh David

Sharing and making music

Menhuin/RPO. Soloist, Clare McFarlane.
Concert at the Barbican Hall April 26.
The Yehudi Menuhin School.

Virtuoso violinist, conductor, teacher - Yehudi Menuhin is all three. The recent concert at the Barbican brought him together with former pupil 21-year-old Clare McFarlane in the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto. Yehudi Menuhin has of course taken the solo part in this work on countless occasions, perhaps the most memorable being the time when, during the Second World War, the Paris Opera House was opened for him to perform it in front of an enthusiastic, Marseillaise-singing audience. But this time it was his pupil's turn to step into the limelight.

Technical virtuosity was to be expected from this talented young violinist, winner of the BBC Young Musician of the Year contest in 1980 and numerous other distinctions. Ms McFarlane's wholehearted commitment to this popular concerto was a shade too serious at times, perhaps, for this dancing, dazzling work; her interpretation was evidently one of a young person who had received a musical education based on something wider than mere technical training.

The Yehudi Menuhin School at Stoke d'Abernon is a monument to this remarkable man, who at 68 is still as active as ever in the field of education. His most recent project is a student exchange venture in collaboration with the Chinese govern-

ment. The school, now in its twenty-first year, aims to foster exceptional talent by providing academic and instrumental learning under one roof. It comprises about 50 pupils aged from 8 to 18 years, and there are 5 new places each year. Pupils are admitted on the basis of musical potential rather than examination results, and, although the school is primarily concerned with musical achievement it is dedicated to the all-round artist rather than the narrow technician. To this end much emphasis is laid on participation in chamber music groups and ensembles, as important in the student's musical education as solo performance. Older pupils guide the younger ones, not only in their musical studies; shared responsibility extends to domestic matters such as putting the younger children to bed and keeping the school donkey fed and watered. The Menuhin philosophy stresses the importance of the relationship between the child and his or her teacher, but at the same time flexibility and adaptability to new ideas through exposure to different teachers and teaching methods is also encouraged.

The daily timetable is divided into three and a half hours music (including theory, composition, choral singing and ensemble work) and three and a half hours academic work. Practice is done in free evenings and in breaks. O and A levels are staggered over five or six years to allow more time for performance in the last years. In 1983 there were seven A level passes, though passes at O level (27) were in a greater range of subjects than at A

level, where only music and history were offered. The school has an impressive list of new equipment, including a BBC Model B microcomputer and an Olivetti printer.

A feature of the school is the large number of concerts - over 120 a year - essential experience for budding soloists. Pupils are encouraged to perform in a variety of venues from old people's homes to concert halls, once again to stress sharing and making music rather than personal achievement. Practice and rehearsal are as important as public performance, the emphasis being laid on the quality of the work and on developing an understanding of the music of a particular composer. Competitions are regarded as essential training for all students, helping them to overcome the traumas of playing under difficult circumstances, rather than as a means to winning personal triumph. Nevertheless, in 1983 four students gained major awards in international competitions, and the school received 13 special and 10 university and conservatoire awards.

The teachers, (who include the celebrated pianist, Louis Kentner, and the violinist Hans Keller), believe that only through self-directed learning and self-education will their pupils develop the musical and instrumental mastery to make a significant personal contribution to the world of music. Perhaps the specialist music school has more aims in common with mainstream educational thinking than are sometimes accredited to it.

Philippa Davidson



Conjuror's trick

Letters to Alice on first reading Jane Austen. By Fay Weldon. Michael Joseph/Rainbird 28.95.

When I finished *Letters to Alice*, I had an image of Fay Weldon as conjuror, whipping a cloth from a generously laden table and leaving the plates of food and glasses of wine mysteriously undisturbed. It came unbidden, and does not suffer too close an interpretation. Crudely, I think the cloth represents literary subsidies like college English departments, while the table stands for good novelists and the repeat their works. The thought of her as a conjuror reflects the combination of interpretation, autobiography and fiction in these 127 elegantly-printed pages - comparable to producing a pack of cards, 12 silk scarves and a dove out of one flat pocket.

Alice is a fictional niece, who has just started a college course in English literature and has written to her Aunt Jane Austen "for a long, pretty and irrelevant" letter. Fay's part of the subsequent correspondence forms an epistolary novel which, as the blurb says, "echoes a series of letters that Jane Austen actually did send to her niece who was trying to become a novelist, and which summed up her views of what was important in life and literature". What Aunt Fay thinks is important in life and literature. Those books that "refresh and enlighten the reader, so that on his or her return to reality, that reality itself has changed, however minutely". "Writing," she tells Alice, "is an odd activity - other people have occupations, jobs; the writer's life is work, and the work is the life, and there can be no holidays from it."

I wish she'd been around in her present guise when I was studying *Emma* for A level 30-odd years ago. As a stumpy, horse-riding 16-year-old, I found the novel every bit as boring and petty as punk-haired, liberated Alice does. Yet if only I'd known some of the things she tells her fictional niece, I might have been much more receptive. That, for example, Jane Austen fainted when told they were moving from a beloved family home (a situation I would have identified with); that 70 per cent of women remained unmarried, though marriage was the one escape from the lottery they were born into - "So to marry was a great prize. It was a woman's aim. No wonder Jane Austen's heroines were so absorbed by the matter"; that, probably "half the nation's women remained virgins all their life" for the

"sense of sexual sin ran high". Of course my teachers didn't talk about virginity and sexual sin; but if they had, I would certainly have been much more interested, and might even have gone to university to study English.

When I likened English departments to dispensable tablecloths, I did not mean that Fay Weldon wants them done away with. She does not believe that Alice "would do better out of their care than in". But she warns her against the continual analysis of novels by those who cannot write them: "As well take a fly to bits, and hope that the bits will explain the creature." And she warns the educational and arts establishments against taking the touring, performing writer for granted. This last warning is a twin to the one she gave publishers at the Booker Prize ceremony. Without writers, your institutions would not exist.

The conjuror's sleight of hand occurs when Alice, who has been struggling to write what we are led to believe will turn out to be a thoroughly incompetent novel, falls her exams and immediately has her book accepted for publication. It is true that she may continue to study English elsewhere, but as the novel looks like becoming a bestseller, this probably won't happen.

Either way, her aunt has introduced her to the concept of the City of Invention, which "lies at a mid-way point between the Road to Heaven and the Road to Hell", and "glitters and glances with life, and gossip, and colour, and fantasy". Its buildings are the Houses of the Imagination created by writers. The great Castle Shakespeare looms at its heart, respectable streets like Mansfield and Melville Ave stretch across it, two suburbs run together - the red-light district Pismo and Sol-Fi Town. "If you plan to build here," she urges Alice, "you must know the city." The conjuror has made the fictional a reality, defying all who have said - since Jane Austen first reported them - "Oh! it is only a novel!"

To make much of the art form one practices, to celebrate it, to glory in it, arouses disapproval in some quarters, particularly if it is done in straightforward language, with unmixt enthusiasm. Fay Weldon's credentials are intact: she is a good writer whom thousands of people willingly read, and she travels widely and awfully in the City of Invention. She is an aunt the would-be novelist may trust.

Paddy Kitchen

Minority voices

AFFOR (All Faiths For One Race). Conference for Building Afro, Caribbean, and Asian Writers. The Triangle, Birmingham.

Opening Birmingham's first one-day conference for African, Caribbean and Asian writers recently, Yvonne Spence of AFFOR defined the idea behind the project as answering a deeply felt need for members of these communities to make their own contribution to our multi-racial society. "Recently a lot of materials have come out, both in schools and the media, which are supposed to represent a multi-racial Britain," she said, "but there is very little coming from us. Most of what is produced, particularly for schools, is from a white perspective and the purpose of this conference is a practical one to help those of you who are writing to get published."

Practical help followed in the form of workshops, each led by an established writer: James Berry on the process of writing a poem; John Agard on the value of the oral tradition of childhood rhymes in adult poem writing; Furrukh Dhondy on writing for

television and Prabhu Gupta on writing features for papers and magazines. Representatives of publishing houses outlined "What we're looking for" and Grace Nicholls discussed the processes involved in getting material into print. In the evening, after a performance by the Soyikwa Theatre Company from Soweto, there were readings by young, local writers and by the experienced poets and authors who had led the morning workshops.

These revealed two parallel needs among the 40 or so young writers who attended the conference: to find outlets for their material, and to share in discussion common feelings of being frustrated in their work because they speak with a minority voice, and come from backgrounds and cultures little understood by the white population.

But Furrukh Dhondy sounded a warning voice against too much ideological introspection. Prophesying that we should soon see an enormous explosion of creative output from writers of these cultures he continued: "I should like to make the case that there is really no such thing as 'black' or 'multi-racial' literature. These terms belong to the critical language of teachers and reviewers which is in danger of stereotyping young writers".

Ann FitzGerald

In conjunction with this conference, West Midlands Arts is offering two writing bursaries, for one year, for writers to work on a creative writing attachment at the AFFOR centre in Birmingham working primarily with Afro-Caribbean and Asian people respectively. Details and application forms can be obtained from David East, Drama/Literature Officer, WMAs, Brunel, Telford, Shropshire, ST16 1BZ. Tel: (0785) 592315.

Next week

Reference books: reviews of a wide variety of dictionaries, encyclopedias and atlases.

No one's fool

Scully.
Granada Television for Channel 4.
Mondays, from May 14, 8.00pm.

For anyone outside Liverpool, say from Southport or West Kirby, it may be necessary to explain that the anti-heroic Scully began life when his creator, Alan Bleasdale, then teaching remedial 15-year-olds on Merseyside, wanted a "reader" that would engage his pupils' respect. "I decided to write a story for them set in their own parish. That was the first time I realized I could write."

Since then, the *Scully* stories have been broadcast on BBC Radio Merseyside and Radio 4, there has been a BBC "Play for Today" and two novels - as well as *The Frumpy Scully Show* on commercial radio. Obviously not one to waste a good idea, Bleasdale has now turned the stories into an all-film, all-location serial that is alternately hilarious and knockingly painful. As in all his incarnations, street-wise Scully is in his last year at school, in a Catholic comprehensive somewhere near Huyton. He is gifted at drama which he loathes ("Do I look as though I wear a bra?") but has a very different ambition: to play professional football, one result of which is that Liverpool FC's Kenny Dalglish keeps materialising in front of him.

Besides the embarrassment and that of being pre-empted into the school pantomime by the daunting, chain-smoking Mrs Heath (English and drama), Scully has to contend with a family that includes a habitually hung-over gran, a brother hooked on trains and a nine-year-old younger brother who is happily into transvestism. As Scully's long-suffering mother says, "We ain't no fortune in lipstick". Scully is also up against an unkindly neighbourhood policeman, Israel ("One eye is 'igher than the other"), the school caretaker Dracula, his sidekick Castanets (so called because of his false teeth) and a hopelessly liberal maths teacher. As Scully says at the beginning of one of his lessons, "This isn't being to be very nice. Some will say it is merely fantasy. Our only journalist at the press pre-



Andrew Schofield as Scully

view refused to believe teachers ever smoke in corridors. In fact, partly because of the locations but especially because of Bleasdale's ear for dialogue and eye for detail, it is frighteningly realistic. For my own part, and after reading the novels, I would have preferred Scully to be more vulnerable than he appears in Andrew Schofield's playing of the role, but perhaps it is merely fatalistic to wish this to be the case. After all, Scully is no one's fool.

and yet he's a loser. That is why, for me, *Scully* is more painful than *Boy from the Blackout*, as well as being a very funny comedy.

Whatever you feel about the presentation of negative images, watch it. If you don't, be careful the morning after transmission: not to turn your back on the class when writing on the board.

David Sel

Crime and punishment

Breakneck.
Theatre Royal, Stratford East.

"If this was France she'd only have got three years..." Yet Vince Foxall's play, *Breakneck*, about Ruth Ellis, the last woman in Britain to be hanged, fails to make a convincing case for giving the murder the dramatic status of *crime passionnel*. "I was just very upset" is hardly the most heartfelt sounding plea of diminished responsibility.

That's not to say that the play doesn't portray Ellis as a victim, but it was the dangerous blend of sex and money, thinly veneered with a cheap glamour that really caused her downfall. Her miscarriage, two weeks before the murder of her lover should have earned her reprieve. At that time it seemed only to add to her crime.

Foxall's play makes a fairly convincing re-evocation of seedy Edgar Wallace London in the Fifties, all platinum blondes and paste jewellery. A time

when the highest possible compliment a woman could get was being told she had "class", Ruth Ellis never had it, always wanted it. The closest she got to it was when she wore a jet-set racing driver David Blakely who turned out to be just as seedy as she was. In the end he rejected her, with fatal consequences for them both. Robert Daws as Blakely is excellent. Had this been a "real" Fifties piece you can imagine the part played by an unashamed Dirk Bogarde.

Mary Maddox sensibly avoids portraying Ruth as martyr. Instead she gives us a bitter, brittle creature, swearing like a trooper in a feigned out glass, and with her jokes authentically biting and unfunny. However, Foxall tries to link the horrible events of 1955 with today by use of a clumsy and unlikely fiction, a "flash forward" in which we see two women, one an ex prostitute, the other a released murderer, trying to set up an authentic Fifties-style drinking club in the present day. The shady businessman-crook who puts the heat on them is the

same one who ran Ruth Ellis 30 years previously. Only this time the women fight back against corruption alternately referring to the memory of Ellis as Touchstones and Jinx.

Ruth Ellis' pathetic story of delusions of grandeur, twisted love and rejection is in itself not enough to make a good play. Her historical position as last woman on the scaffold lends it little more than an eerie significance. Trying to make her story a model for Britain in the Fifties, with the blame landing on obsession with class, unfair treatment of women and lack of regard for passion just doesn't ring true. More significantly representative of how Britain was at the time were the events after the murder, when one man had to make what was really then a political decision: whether Ellis should live or die. The Great British public wanted her to live, the Great British establishment wanted her dead.

Nick Baker

Art of the possible

I admit I was sceptical. A two-week training course for disabled people "seeking to pursue a career in theatre" would, I thought, encourage unrealistic hopes.

Theatre is a wicked profession, full of frustrations," admitted Caroline Nob, artistic director of Graeae, Britain's only professional theatre for disabled actors. She was preparing for the company's first training programme, where tutors would lead classes including movement, voice, acting technique and improvisation. From this beginning, Graeae hopes eventually to develop a drama school. "We'll point out the realities," Caroline Nob explained "Theatre isn't an easy life, but we say have a go. We have to build for a possible future."

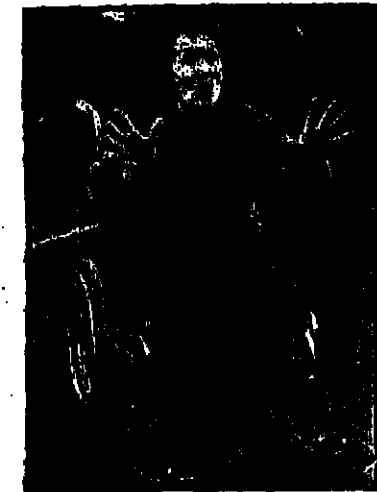
In wheelchairs, on sticks or on foot, a dozen participants arrived at London's Goldsmiths' College. They came from Birmingham, Manchester, Aberdeen. Mostly young, they included a deaf, a blind woman and a spastic so severely disabled she was strapped into her wheelchair. She, it transpired, had written *Boy from the Blackout*. Mark, a college student, was directing an amateur

production from his wheelchair. Wayne, also wheelchair-bound, was doing an A level project on Graeae and "jumped at the chance" to attend the course.

A few had professional ambitions, but most viewed the course as a mixture of challenge and fun. "I love getting on stage and being a twit," laughed Kate, who's blind and "comes to any workshop that seems any good."

Movement was the first session. Starting with warm-up exercises, everyone was soon dancing to music. Out of their wheelchairs and onto the floor, students used whatever muscles they have and made for a structured routine. It didn't look much different from some modern dance performance.

At lunch on the college lawn, everyone was pleased with their morning's work-out. Even a trainee drama teacher, seconded to the course, had also learned something. "The temptation is to suggest that disabled people sit at the back during a performance," she said, "They should know what can be achieved."



Yvonne Poulson in Graeae Theatre Co Workshop

On May 5, the students staged a performance for Graeae's Board of Management and other invited guests. What the audience saw was not just a display of newly-acquired theatre skills; more important, Graeae's training course demonstrates the art of the possible. "We're not just showing less," she said, "They showed us what can be achieved."

Marsha Hamilton

BOOKS

Neither Shakespeare, nor 'easy'

by Roger McKnight

So clear in his great office, that his virtues
Will plead like angels, trumpet-tongued,
against

The deep damnation of his taking off;
And pity, like a naked new-born babe,
Stirring the blast, or Heaven's cherubim,
horsed

Upon the sightless couriers of the air,
Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,
That tears shall drown the wind.

The "modern English version" runs so:
Besides this Duncan has used his power so
gently, he's been so incorruptible in his great
office, that his virtues will plead like angels,
their tongues trumpeting the damnable horror
of his murder. It would be as pitiful as if a
new-born baby were exposed to a storm, or
angels were subjected to a hurricane. Tears
would blind the eye and drown the wind.

The "modern English" version should, be true
both to the nature of the original and to the living
English that we speak and write now. This is
neither. It is an unreadable hybrid, inescapably
dependent on the original but distorting it
intolerably. No one ever spoke or thought in
those accents and what "drama" or "excitement"
can survive the absence of a living English?

Equally, Mr Durband doesn't seem to understand
the poetry and thus misrepresents Shakespeare's
meaning. You can't tack Shakespearean "subtle-
ty" of "language and poetry" onto the Durband
versions, most obviously when the versions are as
wide of the mark as this one: Shakespeare's
magnificent figure of Pity includes the implication
of innocent vulnerability and the inherent power
of simple goodness and so (like Macbeth himself)
we have the measure of the dreadful deed he
contemplates. Durband's "it would be as pitiful as
if" substitutes a feeble comparison from which the
terrible force, indeed the terrible meaning of
the original is lost. It is an act of sacrilege that
Macbeth contemplates. "Deep damnation" tells
us what that means; "damnable horror" evacuates
the original of its religious meaning and
reduces it to a journalistic cliché. It is neither
Shakespeare nor "easy". Imaginative truth dis-

appears under a paraphrase that is not just
rhythmically inert and unidiomatic but fun-
damentally inaccurate.

On these terms a "language everyone can
understand" is not worth having. It should be the
business of English teachers to resist rather than
promote such a language. For *Shakespeare Made
Easy* systematically devalues the imagination,
indeed denies its function in the growth of moral
understanding. Democratizing the beautiful and
ironic exchange between Duncan and Banquo as
they stand before Macbeth's castle yield this:
Duncan: This castle hath a pleasant seat; the
air

Nimble and sweetly recommends itself
Unto our gentle senses

The castle is pleasantly situated.
The sweet and bracing air appeals to me.
Banquo: This guest of summer,
The temple-haunted marlet, does approve,
By his loved mansionry, that the heaven's breath

Smells wooingly here.

The scent must be attractive. In summertime,
the swallows usually haunt our churches, but
they've opted to build their houses here.

As with the "Pity" speech the sanctity with
which Shakespeare's language invests the scene is
blown away in the ludicrous banality of the
paraphrase. Instead of heaven's breath it is the
scent of the perfume counter that fill this
pleasant seat. And the marlet isn't drawn by the
odour of sanctity, he "opts" for a position as if,
like Duncan himself, he has been leaving through
the real estate brochures. "Situating", "bracing
air" and "opted" cannot be innocently exchanged
with their supposed Shakespearean equivalents;
they are expressions into which modern usage
intrudes wholly inappropriate associations.

"Everyone can understand" it, no doubt, but they
aren't understanding Shakespeare any more than
they are when Mr Durband translates Macbeth's
"After life's fitful fever he sleeps well" with
"After the ups and downs of life he sleeps

soundly". There are no "ups" in that "fitful
fever".

The job Mr Durband tries to do, and of whose
outcome his publishers are so sure, is impossible.
Again and again, one feels that he half recognizes
as much. He is frequently trapped by the artifice
or the metaphorical density of the original, his
efforts to make the texts "come to life" (as
labeled by the resistance of his material. *Romeo
and Juliet* brings out all that is misconceived about
Shakespeare Made Easy. For instance,

Romeo: Ah Juliet, if the measure of the joy
Be heaped like mine, and that they still be more

To blazon it, then sweeten with thy breath
This neighbour air, and let rich music's tongue

Unfold the imagined happiness that both
Receive in either by this dear encounter

becomes
Ah Juliet! If your job is as great as mine and
your powers of communication greater, speak
with your sweet breath the precious words that
describe the mutual happiness of our dear
meeting.

That exclamation mark should herald rapture.
Instead we get a hotch-potch of modern English
phrases that compose nothing at all that we could
call expressive, let alone "rapturous" (as the
original certainly is). "Sweet breath" and "pre-
cious words" belong to a different world from
"powers of communication" and "mutual happi-
ness". Rhythmically too, the modern version's
dead; nothing in it answers to the elation of the
original. A "modern English version" will only be
of any value if it is true to the spirit of the original.
Prose such as this kills it. What a reader
"understands" from such prose is something quite
different from what there is to be understood in
Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. Can we doubt
that if *Shakespeare Made Easy* makes its way into
schools it will be not Shakespeare but the
"modern English version" that is "understood".
It is an ill-conceived enterprise that invites the
abdication of the teacher's responsibility. What
Adrian Mole needs is a good teacher with a
feeling for Shakespeare's language - and ade-
quate footnotes. (These are none in the Durband
versions). Shakespeare cannot be "easy" and still
be Shakespeare.

1. *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, aged 13 3/4*, by
Sue Townsend.

Roger Knight is Senior Lecturer in Education at
the University of Leicester and edited of the *Use
of English*.

BOOKS

Troubled present, uncertain future

The Crisis of the University.
By Peter Scott.
Croom Helm £16.95. 0 7099 3303 7.
£8.95. 3310 X.

Peter Scott read history at Oxford
University and then went into journal-
ism, rising rapidly to become the editor
of *The Times Higher Education Sup-
plement*, a position which he has
occupied for some years. This book is a
reflection of both his early intellectual
training and his more recent pre-
occupation with higher education policy.

Unlike some journalists, who rapidly
discard the subject of their university
studies, Peter Scott has retained a
commitment to it. He has taken space
in his own newspaper to write long and
crude profiles of eminent contempo-
rary historians and occasionally to re-
flect on the nature of history itself and of
intellectual movements within it. Be-
hind the practising journalist there is an
academic historian trying to get out.

In the first half of this book just that
happens. In the second half the author
returns to something closer to his role
as a serious specialist journalist reflect-
ing on the contemporary problems and
future development of British univer-
sities. In the book, perhaps in the
author too, the two perspectives rest a
little uneasily together. However, for
anyone with an interest in the recent
past, the troubled present and the
uncertain future of higher education in
this country this book is essential
reading. It is both scholarly and ex-
traordinarily well informed, (there are
in fact few other people around who
know more about British universities
than Peter Scott). It is not an easy
read in all parts; in spite of his long

experience and expertise in journalism
the prose style is sometimes dense and
the argument complex. But as long as a
touch of the turgid does not put you off
it is worth the effort.

The starting point is that UK univer-
sities have for nearly 20 years a
framework within which to operate
and a set of goals, which they were
striving to reach. This was provided by
the Robbins Report. The abandon-
ment of the Robbins principles has
changed all that and the universities
are now uncertainly groping for a new
definition of their role beyond the
immediate preoccupation with the
actualities and further threats of public
expenditure cuts and demographic
decline. One of the answers, according
to Scott, is to abandon the academism
and instrumentalism of the modern
university and return to something
closer to the older traditions of human-
ism of the liberal university of the
nineteenth and early twentieth centu-
ries. His hope is that "the intellectual
system may again place emphasis on
meaning as opposed to information,
on process as opposed to product, on
integration as opposed to accumula-
tion". In diagnosing the sickness of
contemporary British universities he
focuses first on the fracturing of know-
ledge into self-contained disciplines
overconcerned about their own iden-
tities, and secondly on the inherent
specialization of concentrating on
technological relevance.

So much for questions of content.
As far as questions of structure are
concerned Peter Scott would prefer to
abandon the current distinction be-
tween the universities and
polytechnics reflected in the binary
policy, or at least he would like to

redraw the binary line so that the two
types of institution are no longer
differentiated in the way they are at
present. He rightly suggests that the
binary objectives of comprehensiveness,
relevance, accountability and
social justice need to be accepted by
the whole of higher education not just
the public sector part of it. Whether
that requires messing about with ad-
ministrative structures is, however, ques-
tionable. The only thing that will
achieve this is significant change in the
values of those who work in our
universities.

Demographic factors are often
undervalued by social scientists and
others attempting to explain social
change. In this case too Peter Scott
might have placed more emphasis on
the pressures that falling birth rates of
the late Sixties and Seventies are likely
to exert on the universities. For survival
at anything remotely resembling
their current size will mean adapting to
new and different kinds of students.
They will have to choose between
possible closure by a Tory Govern-
ment bent on public expenditure cuts
or reducing their entry requirements
for 18-year-olds, thus moving away
from providing education for a small
academic elite or opening their doors
to mature students, which will again
involve a different conception of what
qualifies an individual for a place in
one of our seats of learning. They will
also be pushed into reexamining the
limited role they currently play in the
provision of continuing education. At
the risk of being accused of being
unduly cynical about the universities'
capacity to adapt, it seems unlikely
that any amount of technological

change and the demand this creates for
post-experience education would have
the same effect in shifting the univer-
sities' conception of their role as will the
substantial drop that they must antici-
pate in their traditional clientele.

In the second half of this book,
which is more concerned with practical
policy than history and philosophy, the
author is not always clear whether he is
talking about the universities or the
higher education system as a whole.
Whereas the main focus, as the title
suggests, is on the universities, from
time to time he drifts into talking about
the higher education system which, as
he knows better than most, is certainly
not synonymous with the universities.
Just as the first half of the book,
concerned with the recent historical
development of the universities, rests
slightly uncomfortably with the second
half, so within part two of the discus-
sion about how policies may shape the
values of the system tends to skim over
the question of whether it is the system
as a whole or the universities within it
that is at stake.

It is, however, all too easy to carp
about a failure to achieve perfect
integration or to define precisely what
is being discussed. Within this book all
the major issues that face contempo-
rary universities are raised - perhaps
indeed too many of them are raised,
which helps to account for its opaque
quality in places. It deserves to be read
and pondered over by those anxious to
ensure that universities do not atrophy
into marginal institutions with minimal
impact on the world around. That
perhaps is the greatest danger that
faces them.

Tessa Blackstone



Shockwave

Blood and Guts in High School. By
Kathy Acker.
Pleasor £2.95. 0 330 28186 0.

When did you last hear Kathy Acker's
name? Two months ago she was every-
where: readings, discussions, even the
apothecary of a full-scale *South Bank
Show* profile. Her collection, *Blood
and Guts in High School*, was selling at
a rate that had Pleasor, her first British
and her first major commercial pub-
lisher, wondering why they'd worried
and delayed so much in the first place
or (depending on how you look at
these things) how to work such a hype
again. Meteoric rise is an unfortunate
expression since meteors flare up and
fall almost before you know they're
there.

Henry Kissinger thought power was
the strongest aphrodisiac. Scandal
seems to be the best press release. *Last
 Tango in Paris*, *Lady Chatterley's
Lover*, the infamous Warhol
documentary of the late 1960s, *The
Romans in Britain*, all benefited
(materially, if not in terms of compe-
tition) from the moral censure levelled
against them, usually sight-unseen.

In the same way, the idea of Kathy
Acker is a dangerous one. A punk
novelist, an ex-sex show starlet, on the
edges of the New York drugs scene,
viciously spoofing (this is the Gruncy
view) Charles Dickens, making play
with Pasolini's appalling murder,
cashing in on a taste for violence and
anarchy, someone with a close affinity
for rock bands like New Order and
rock's lingers-on like Sid Vicious and
Nauseating Nancy Spungen than for
any other writers, except perhaps
notoriously dodgy types like Kerouac
and William Burroughs.

On the *South Bank Show*, Acker
came across rather earnestly, middle
class (and trying to fight it), middle
brow (and trying to haul herself above
it), all the more strikingly so for her
carefully and determinedly unlit-
erary appearance. The deliberate pla-
giarisms and stylistic effects of *Blood
and Guts in High School* and the two
other texts in the volume, *Great Ex-
pectations* and *My Life, My Death* by
Pier Paolo Pasolini constantly betray
the thinking that lies behind them. The
punk inarticulacy and violence fail to
mask or to blend with the graduate
school experimentalism that is already
well out of date, 25 years if you date it
from the Beats, 60 if you give Surreal-
ism the credit. Monotonously repeated
obscenity quickly becomes irritating.
Unreflected sex and violence rapidly
lose interest even as pornography;
nihilism has a poor shelf life and
Johnny Rotten, Sid'n Nancy did it
better anyway.

The idea of pillaging *Great Expec-
tations*, or examining the mystery and
ambiguity of Pasolini's fate is an
interesting one. But the intention isn't
clear. If it is, after all, to shock and
to kick down convention, then Acker is
swinging at targets that are no longer
there. *Blood and Guts* isn't shocking
enough; as satire, it's targetless, as
sensibility, it's too abstract, as fiction,
it's too drab. Shock value is the most
inflationary of currencies and the quickest
to crash. As the woman said, you want
Fame, you gotta sweat a bit harder for
it, don't you?

David Blewitt

Brian Morton

Dream spot

C'est le Goulag By Plantu.
Published by La Découverte-Mas-
pero, 1 Place Paul Painlevé, 75009
Paris and La Monde, 5 rue des Italiens,
75009 Paris. 39 francs.

Drawing is usually the most despised
subject on the French school curricu-
lum. But it was lycées art classes which
started Jean Plantu on the route which
has led to a French political cartoon-
ist's dream spot: a place on *Le Monde*
in which cartoons are the main graphic
element. The paper still refuses to use
news photographs.

Education and the Third World
have occupied a large place in Plantu's
work since he started 10 years ago - in
his early twenties - submitting draw-
ings to the education and diplomatic
supplements of *Le Monde*. But now he
turns his pen to the whole range of
political quirk and contradictions for
the main paper.

A number of his cartoons have just
been collected in *C'est le Goulag*
published by La Découverte-Maspero/
Le Monde. The socialist rots shoots up
on an enormously tall, but fragile,
stem after the 1981 victories. The Rolls
Royce owners reading the government
programme are sure that France has
turned overnight into Russia. Ex-
prime minister Raymond Barre smiles
to see the present prime minister Pierre
Mauray using the same old formula to
lure the country to effort. Not there,



unfortunately, are some of his English
psychological bull's-eyes: Mrs Thatcher
as a brick wall, impervious to the
unemployed; Mrs Thatcher yelling
"No" and "Europe" with the same
voice: "communaute Opeene!"

Among English cartoonists he
admires Gills - "those twins" - and
Trog. "Now tell me about English
education," he says. "Do you have the
same problem of private schools?"
Twenty minutes later it is obvious that
I am the one who has been grilled. All
very appropriate for a paper on which
the contributors' most venial sin would
be to risk an instant reaction. Blessed
are those who think.

Herewith Plantu's vision of the
French education minister's dilemma.

Anne Corbett

The Makino Sisters. By Junichiro
Tanizaki, translated by S. Seldeslucker.
Pleasor £2.95. The Samurai by Shi-
shu Endo. Translated by Van Gessel.
Penguin £2.95. It is good to be able to
read these two very readable
translations of modern
Japanese fiction.

is a classic story of a family in Osaka
during the Thirties, but the English
reader may want to start on *The Samurai*,
a historical novel by a Catholic
writer who has experienced the clash
of Western and Japanese culture in his
own life.

Robin Russ

Unpalatable truths

*The Kindness That Kills: The Church-
es' Simplistic Response to Social
Issues*. Edited by Digby Anderson.
SPCK £3.95. 0 281 04096 6.

Western political philosophy has seen
few debates as long lasting as that
between the forces of God and Caesar
about their relative jurisdictions. In
the United States there is currently an
explosion of political activity by reli-
gious groups despite that country's
adherence to the separation of church
and state. Battle has been joined on a
number of levels and from a number of
political perspectives. The Moral
Majority's Jerry Falwell symbolizes
the New Right's concern with so-called
"family issues" such as abortion,
women's liberation and homosexual
equality and the interest of some on
the Right of American politics in
extending Christian participation in
politics.

The Catholic Bishops' recent pro-
nouncements reflect the liberal/Left
concern with the nuclear freeze and
that Church's willingness to pronounce
on contentious political matters.
Groups such as the Institute for Re-
ligion and Democracy monitor the ex-
tent to which naive churchgoers are
unwittingly supporting terrorist move-
ments via the collection plate and thus
highlight the absence of accountability
of church leaders to their congrega-
tions in such matters. Finally, indi-
viduals such as Michael Novak have
produced extensive defences of capi-
talism from a Christian perspective.

Digby Anderson's collection of
essays (which comes from the Institute
of Economic Affairs) echoes some of
the themes of the American debate in
that it attacks the way in which the
churches in Britain have allowed them-
selves to become involved in the
debate.

Robin Russ

from racism to unemployment and
from education to the role of multi-
nationals, the authors criticize the
churches for bias, naivety and igno-
rance of economic and political realities.
Behind their specific discussions there
is the general feeling of an irrational
hostility to capitalism and the market
economy which neglects the very po-
tential case which can be made for an
order where personal freedom and
collective wealth are maximized.

As in any collection of essays, there
is a certain unevenness of quality and
diversity of purpose; and it is a pity that
so many of the authors do not have the
space to develop their themes. Thus
David Martin's sophisticated reflec-
tions on the ambiguities of the Angli-
can Church's position as a national
church is sadly truncated. He seems to
be articulating a position which is all
too rarely expressed - that the Church
of England's intricate relationship with
the country's history and culture is
something which might be spiritually
and politically far more valuable than
explicit attempts by bishops to alter
government policy. Similarly Rachel
Stearns's plea for a more balanced
discussion of social and economic
issues by religious leaders and her
overview of some important writings
on the religion and capitalism, while a
perfectly satisfactory *hors d'oeuvre*, is
hardly a substantial bibliography.

And, while Digby Anderson scores
some good points against both the
unreflective use of sociological studies
and the Bishop of Liverpool in his
essay "Eating Sheppard's Pie", some
of his criticisms of sociology could with
little difficulty be used against the
discipline practised in Lord North
Street.

These reservations do not however
detract from the general feeling which
is trying to make known the church's
authority to the churches to speak on

particular policy issues. In education
for example Caroline Cox and John
Marks are correct to be indignant
about *The Ties and the Wounds* - a
pamphlet which seems to suggest that
the Churches should lend their weight
to resisting public expenditure cuts
while refusing to become seriously
involved in other aspects of the educa-
tion debates about standards.

P A J Waddington is critical of the
Church of England's Board for Social
Responsibility's entry into the debate
about criminal statistics and the extent
to which the Church thereby gave
credence to the argument that the
police were racist. John Greenwood
does a good job of exposing the oddity
of the Board publishing a defence of
closed shops when presumably ar-
guing the Church might be expected to
assert the right of the individual in re-
lation to trade union membership or
military service. And if Graham Daw-
son's definition of the Manichean
heresy as "the belief that matter is evil"
leaves something to be desired, the
essays dealing with multinational
poverty and the Third World cut
through much cant and hypocrisy
about world hunger and the responsi-
bilities of the West.

Ultimately two messages emerge
from this collection. The first is the
extent to which, as David Martin puts
it, the churches are vulnerable to the
"shibboleths of yesterday's intel-
ligentsia". The second is the extent to
which, echoing Novak, the obligation
to think clearly entails a recognition of
some unpalatable truths. Sometimes
loaves and fishes can be multiplied but
normally the world works on rather
different principles and as the church
is so clearly aware a free lunch is the
exception rather than the rule.

These reservations do not however
detract from the general feeling which
is trying to make known the church's
authority to the churches to speak on

lingo

When the fascicles containing the
letter "O" of the OED first appeared
in 1902-4, they showed the commoner
pronunciation of *octopus* as /octo/pus/
(to rhyme with *opus*). An isolated
curiosity? Far from it: *balcony* was
/balco/pai/ (to rhyme with *phony*) till
150 years ago; *syndrome* was /syn-
drome/ (three syllables) till 60 years
ago; and *armada* was /arm'da/ (two
syllables with *ada*) till 50 years ago.

How should such historical facts
colour our attitude to the way we and
our friends pronounce the words we
use? At the very least, it should make
us hesitate before we scoff. Pronuncia-
tion is never quite static but is rather in
a continuous process of slow but
irreversible change. Anti-evolutionists
thoroughly challenged Darwin to

Then and There books are aimed at
a lower level, but intending A level
students could do much worse than get
a flavour of their subject by reading
Pizzaro and the Incas, by Nicholas
Tate (Longman, 80p 0 582 20547 6).
While *The Age of Discovery* deals in
concepts and theories, *Pizzaro and the
Incas* deals in history on the ground,
and it's no good trying to
attain historical concepts if you haven't
a fair idea of the details of what was
actually going on.

Nicholas Tate devotes more than
half his book to Inca history, which is
quite a feat since they may have plated
their buildings in gold, but the Incas
never developed the art of writing.
This emphasis on the conquered civiliza-
tions, rather than the savage con-
querors, is the right one, but the
contrast should be made by more than
just implication. The pendulum here
has swung too far away from ideas and
too near to narrative details; what is
lost is a moral dimension which even
younger children could cope with and
which should undoubtedly be there.

Jessica Saraga

show them an animal in the process of
evolving. Phoneticians are more for-
tunate than Darwin, for examples of
pronunciations evolving abound.

Consider these: /pɪm/ or /pɪm/ (the
textbook); /pɪv/ or /pɪv/ (the
textbook); /pɪv/ or /pɪv/ (the
textbook). In both of these, the older pronun-
ciation is almost ousted. Indeed younger
readers may hardly be aware of the
older versions to begin with. But before
we are ousted, let us note that there
were older versions to begin with. But before
we are ousted, let us note that there
were older versions to begin with. But before
we are ousted, let us note that there
were older versions to begin with.

Another word that has come some
way along the road of change is
exquisite. The Concise Oxford Dic-
tionary labels *ekskwɪzɪt* "disputed"; the
fourteenth edition of the *English Pro-
nouncing Dictionary* says "The forms
ekskwɪt and *ekskwɪt* are becoming
very common". Collins *English Dic-
tionary* gives *ekskwɪt*, *ekskwɪt*, and
thus the full transitional status is
displayed.

But which is correct? In such cases,
as in so many linguistic questions, the
appeal to history and tradition is vain:
what the majority of people today is
correct. (For today, *ekskwɪt* is
correct.)

W J McLeod

BOOKS

Spot the attitude

Violence. By Bruce Huggan. Edward Arnold £15.95 0 231 0831 1. Stimulus Response Questions in Sociology: A Guide for A Level Students. By Danny Myers. Longman £17.50 0 582 35465 X. The World of Work. By Stephanie Hawkins. Collins Educational £4.25 247 131466. Introduction to Industrial Relations. By Mike Vincent. Heinemann £9.95.

Books for the classroom may be judged by their content, the stimulus which they offer in respect of further work inside and outside the classroom, and the manner of their presentation. Myers and Huggan's booklets assume different audiences - the former A level students and the latter young people of average to below average ability between the ages of 14 to 16 - but have a common the stimulus nature of their material. Danny Myers' booklet concerns itself with the stimulus response questions which have appeared increasingly in recent years on several A level sociology examination papers and invariably possessing a compulsory status. Their aim has been to encourage insight and understanding rather than rote learning and thus to make an impact on the way we teach. This booklet provides students with opportunities to practise their sociological insights in response to a variety of test questions, and judge their answers against the author's "framework" attempts and those of some students. For teachers who are seeking a ready-made bank of such questions (this booklet will prove useful, although the suggested answers need to be treated cautiously, as the author admits, since, badly handled, they may be seen by some students as encouraging the search for the "right" answers.

Bruce Huggan's *Violence* is one of the well-known Checkpoint 21 series which, although different in format, presentation and audience, shares with Myers a concern to provoke disciplined thought. It asks young people to consider the sensitive topic of violence - How much violence is there in the world? Is all violence criminal? Who suffers from violence? Can violence ever be morally right? The presentation is attractive, although densely packed; it contains short sections of information, newspaper extracts, graphic photographs and questions which provoke and stimulate discussion and further work. It is intended as a resource to enable participation in further projects and may best be seen as an excellent stimulus rather than a self-contained programme of work.

Huggan and Vincent's books, on the other hand, rely for their base on substantial information supplemented with suggested assignments. Both are aimed principally at A level students, the former mainly at the General Level award and the latter at National Level, but either book has potential

for use with other students on similar courses.

Stephanie Hawkins, in *The World of Work*, seeks to provide "an understanding of the many different types of business organizations which exist in our mixed economy and an insight into the day-to-day activities of such an organisation", and also to "help students acquire basic office skills". Her book considers organizations in the public and private sectors, their relationship to the economy, the environment, to their consumers and their employees, the sources of their finance, their internal structure, and concludes by outlining the work of the office, office equipment and safety, and how payments are made. The material has been clearly organized and attractively presented with pertinent and effective illustrations of documents, flow diagrams, and regular assignments for the students. The information is presented in a factual manner and concentrates on the formal aspects of business organizations - thus the day-to-day activities of the organization are the official variations of such events as a telephone call (Assignment Twelve). This however is counter-balanced by the assignments which contain imaginative ideas and involve students in exploring themes in their local community.

Mike Vincent, on the other hand, in his *Introduction to Industrial Relations* starts from the assumption that there are many different views on the subject, and thus his book is essentially about ideas and attitudes. Students are encouraged to make up their own minds and even consider the views of the author as betrayed in the text. The book considers some of the major formative influences on industrial relations - their history, legislation, political and media influences, new technology, and so on - and students' understanding of this topic will be greatly enhanced by contextualising it in this way. Each chapter begins with a list of objectives, continues with a text which is informative and which also contains illustrative extracts, diagrams and cartoon drawings, interspersed with regular assignments. A short list of recommended reading completes each chapter. Particularly interesting is the inclusion of material on women, work and trade unions, and the author's request to his readers to prove that the particular chapter was written by a man. In an otherwise thought-provoking and informative text, with a comprehensive index, the chapter headings act as nebulous signposts. The chapter headed "What we need here is a change of attitude" for example, is concerned with views on industrial relations as manifested through opinion polls and party political ideology - "Social and Political Attitudes" might have provided a clearer pointer to the material contained therein. Nevertheless, a book to be highly recommended.

Tony Kidd

Headline topics

Health Care in The News. By Vanessa Leigh. 0 8507 8319 4. Leaving Home in The News. By Dorothy Turner. 0 8507 8360 7. Wayland £4.50 each. Trade Unions. By Eric Wainwright. Batsford £6.95. 0 7134 3570 4.

Everyone needs health care; most people leave home and many join trade unions. These topics are likely to be relevant to the lives of 15- and 16-year-olds about to leave school, and could all form a useful part of a social studies programme. In particular, *Leaving Home and Health Care*, which has sections on drugs and sexual behaviour, deal with pre-occupations teenagers may already be up against. The *In The News* series has a newspaper format, each double page spread containing a mocked-up story and photograph, plus a background section giving the facts and crystallising the issues, and a "Did you know?" inset giving some vital statistics - what percentage of the population need to lose weight, or a sample budget for a teenage couple both on the dole. The

abuse, and the difficulties of finding living accommodation away from home, being presented alongside the facts and without patronage have a good chance of being carefully considered by teenage readers. Trade unions may be perceived as less relevant in a world where so many teenagers have no prospect of working, and teachers feel they must dole out for unemployment rather than for work. Nevertheless, Eric Wainwright's book gives a straightforward and well-illustrated account of the growth of trade unions, and focuses on the question of their power today, and by implication, their relationship to government. In a good account of the Grunwick dispute he puts it beyond question that the TUC could have defeated George Ward had the Labour government of the day wanted it to; instead the government became increasingly concerned with the impending need for a General Election. What a pity Mr Wainwright wasn't able to cover more recent events too, at Warrington, at Cheltenham and at the pits, which would all have added fuel to the flames of his debate. Doubtless teachers will supply the

Facing the world

Frontiers. By Ralph Gower. Lion £4.95. 0 8548 473 3. Communicating with People. By Florence Little. Hodder and Stoughton £3.95. 0 340 33133 X. It's Your Life. By Molly Cheston. Religious and Moral Education Press £2.95. 0 08 021868 7. £3.95. 0 08 025614 7.

Curriculum development for the 14-19 age range made great advances in the wake of the important editing work of the likes of Hapton and Scally (1981) and McGuire and Priestley (1981), leading to a proliferation of "Social and Life Skills" and "Communications" courses. Problems remain for everyone (and that includes textbook writers), especially at the interfaces between institutions (schools and colleges) and approaches (academic and practical). Social and Life Skills can easily become a portmanteau term encompassing social, moral, health and religious education, even remedial education, unless the approach adopted is clearly skills-based, and part of a negotiated curriculum. The three books under review, for all their good points, illustrate many aspects of these problems.

Ralph Gower's *Frontiers* clearly derives from religious education. It has three sections: "Personal", "Social" and "International Issues", each section subdivided into units for study and discussion. Each page has three closely-printed columns with facts and information on topics such as Addiction, Housing, Old Age, Work, Poverty and Conservation. An ever-present head-

ing tells us "What the Bible says about..." (a great deal on crime, although rather less on education, evidently). Many important issues are addressed, and their range develops sensibly from the personal to the global, but the level of language difficulty remains formidable (sample discussion topic in the Love, Marriage and Sex unit reads: "What levels of commitment should correspond to the levels of sexual contact? Why?"); nor can the overt religious perspective ever be ignored. The book would therefore have limited uses despite claims for its value in social studies courses.

Communicating with People is specifically related to the BEC General People and Communication module, although the publishers (perhaps with an eye to possible developments under BTEC), stress its suitability for "related courses in preparation for office and business life". The book contains 15 "assignments" based on three imaginary companies and on students' college experience and a "Notes and Guidance" section which is cross-referenced so that, for example, when "making notes for a telephone call" (Assignment Twelve), students are encouraged to refer to "Telecommunications" (Notes, Section Nine). Following syllabus needs first, the book involves a good deal of letter-writing, form-filling, filing and telephone skills-type exercises, as well as a lot of copying out (of forms etc). Given the book's title and some of the headings ("Meetings and Minutes", "Non-verbal Communication"), it is surprising that there is little use made of interactive teaching techniques such as

role play. Information in the Notes section is often detailed, but "Making Notes", surely a difficult and essential skill, is given two short paragraphs of generalization.

Molly Cheston's *It's Your Life* is more likely to be of use to the new breed of courses, as its appearance in a second edition (after two re-prints of the 1979 first edition) indicates. The long term problem of the speed at which information becomes obsolete is tackled through a mixture of editorial alteration and direct updating, so that while the format is the tried and tested one, sections like that on drugs get significantly updated through information on "Volatile solvent abuse", or glue-sniffing. The focus is, very properly, still on the young person (witness the sub-divisions "Yourself", "Your Surroundings" and "Your Relationships"). Useful and plentiful information is given on subjects as diverse as adolescence, smoking, housing, first aid, local councils, one-trapception and social attitudes, and there is a checklist of valuable addresses of outside agencies. The Preface hopes that "this course will be of use to all ability ranges"; if this hope is to become established fact, the book will need to be carefully and skilfully used with lower ability groups, and similar handling of the book's offerings in the way of drama will also be necessary. Overall, one's fears for print-dominated approaches to Social and Life Skills remain, but there is no questioning the usefulness of these books in respect of their potential as instantly accessible resources for the teacher.

Derek Paget



The Second Jungle Book published by Macmillan at £7.50, a companion to the first volume of Kipling's famous stories robustly test autumn with new illustrations in black and white and colour by Maurice Wilson. The example is from *The Miracle of Purun Bhagat*. Also available in paperback at £1.50.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Benji and Carlos. By Jennifer Jones and Penelope Knight. 0946028 02 8.

The Story of McNab the Crab. By Bill Arawid. 0946028 01 X. Arawid Publications. 10 Dyson Road, E11 London. £1.50 each.

Folk-tales and legends, originally transmitted orally, explained the world. Long before Aesop, there were such oral tales, and many used animals; a tradition that has continued through Anansi and Spiderman, Brer Rabbit and the innumerable anthropomorphic bears, toads and mice, elephants and tigers that prance on two legs or four through children's literature. And if fairy tales are frowned on, science fiction may be an acceptable way of confronting the threateningly unfamiliar. What is being sought by the reader is some exercise of the imagination.

Yvonne Collimore and Jocelyn Barrow, both with distinguished careers in education and a Caribbean background, clearly understand this need. They have set up a new publishing venture, called Arawid after the Caribbean sun-god. According to them, Arawid has been started "to fill a gap that commercial publishers have neglected; that is, the fact that we live in a society with a rich diversity of cultures which need to be reflected in its literature, starting with children's read."

The first two books from Arawid, *Benji and Carlos* and *The Story of McNab the Crab*, are refreshing in bringing the fantastical into the everyday world of children. Benji lives in St. Columbus and spends his school holiday with his grandparents on their farm. Author Jennifer Jones knows her island, and the informed realism with which she and illustrator Penelope Knight recreate it makes the appearance of Carlos, a smart-man frog, the more enchanting. And McNab the Crab, first encountered by Michelle at the end of her Uncle (author and illustrator) Billy's toe, is equally delightful, with his raconteur style and broad Glasgow accent.

For the animals in both books speak the dialect of their regions. This is a deliberate strategy by Arawid to validate in writing the language forms used by children in the UK. For this alone, the books would earn their place in schools, where language diversity is increasingly being recognised as a positive resource brought by the pupils into the schools.

That the books are also lively and amusing, attractively illustrated - though I wish that more attention had been paid to the relationship of picture and text in *Benji and Carlos* - suggests that we can look forward eagerly to future publications from Arawid.

How to be a student

The Successful Student's Handbook: A Step-by-Step Guide to Study, Reading, and Thinking Skills. By Rita Phipps. University of Washington Press £3.40. 0 295 95802 2.

This American book on study skills is likely to be of most use either to those wishing to write another book for the British market, or to those responsible for developing study skills programmes in further build up their library resources. In this area North America is some way ahead of us, full-time Study Skills advisers being an established presence on most campuses. This state of affairs may have arisen partly as a result of more broadly-based and integrated curricula at degree level.

Although Rita Phipps' book is intricately linked to the American high school/college system, it carries many useful pointers for such important skills as note-taking, summarizing, paraphrasing, sequencing, the SQ3R method, "page-flipping" etc. The note-taking section is especially cogent; the skill is broken down into constituent elements and a useful model is offered. Much emphasis is placed on mentally interrogating the text and/or lecturer, and so an active rather than a passive response is fostered in students.

Unfortunately, the American bias is far too strong for the book to be used widely by English students. Its unfavourably cheerful "have-a-nice-day" attitude is particularly irksome. A quotation from a "Motivational Pop Talk" will illustrate this point: "You'll just plain hard - well, keep it! It's just plain hard - well, keep it! You'll get it! Hard work never hurt anyone. And think of the rewards when you finally succeed (which you will)". This may work in the USA, but in UK, 1984, it is likely to induce sarcastic laughter rather than renewed effort.

Claims also interestingly made for the book as a reader "starting at the sixth grade level and ending at the thirteenth" seem at odds with the writer's own Preface, in which she states: "This book is intended mainly for college students". A forthcoming teachers' manual promises "a step-by-step lesson plan for every day of the school year".

Gillian Klein

RESOURCES

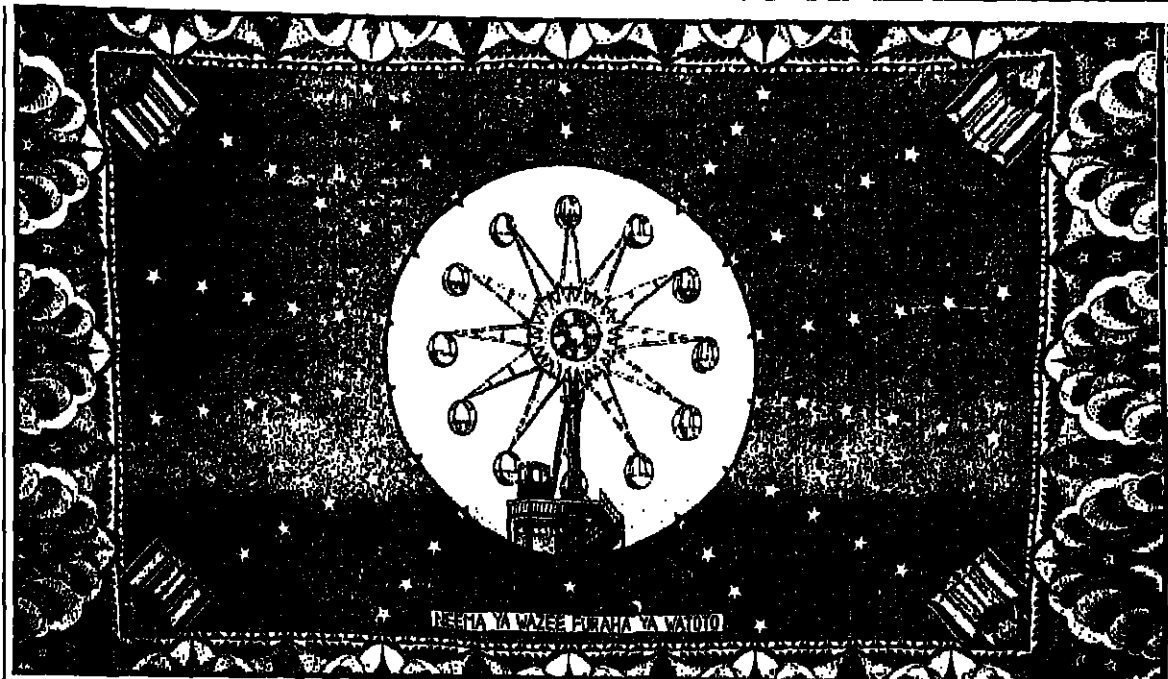


One third of the Commonwealth is made up of countries in Africa. The Commonwealth Institute, encouraged by the Festival of India, is featuring an ambitious programme on Africa, starting on May 1 and running into early 1985. The Commonwealth Caribbean countries will have their turn in 1986.

According to the press briefing, this vast initiative aims "to give a modern portrayal of Africa". There has been an enormous amount of consultation with the African countries concerned. But who in those countries and what viewpoint they have remains to be seen as the programme unfolds. The Commonwealth Institute is a publicly funded, statutory body and has no editorial control over the permanent exhibits of each country; the countries themselves pay for the exhibits. This venture has led to all the relevant African countries redoing their pavilions, unchanged in most cases since 1962. The continent has been divided into four regions so that now the shared culture, history and geography of each can be set into context, and each has a central theme that has an impact in that region.

The section on the countries of Eastern Africa explores conservation and ecology in relation to development. Western Africa dwells on the masquerade, "a vivid traditional aspect of Africa, still considered relevant today". For the Southern and Central region, water is the theme - its necessity and the effect of drought and its provision through traditional and modern technology. Finally, the Seychelles and Mauritius are related to mono-cropping: sugar and coconuts are the crops used to indicate how colonialism left a legacy of dependency on one crop for export, trapping countries in a dilemma of falling commodity prices and rising export bills.

The lead in to these displays is through an exhibition on *Africa in History*, which has been assembled by the Institute itself and richly resourced from collections in Africa and the UK, such as the Pitt Rivers Museum in



FESTIVAL OF AFRICA

This year the Commonwealth Institute celebrates African art and industry. Gillian Klein visits their exhibition

Oxford. It starts with a mock-up of an archaeological dig and is designed "to take the visitor on a journey in time from man's (sic) earliest beginnings through his attempts to master his environment, his interaction with peoples from outside Africa, his struggle for independence and eventually, the development of peaceful interrelation via the Commonwealth of Nations".

It is difficult to evaluate the exhibitions in terms of what the young viewers will take away as their image of Africa. Certainly there will be exciting exhibits in store for those who enter the Hausa gateway, some of which have never before been accessible to

the public. There seems to be a determined effort that issues of independence within Africa and beyond should not be shown from an Imperialist viewpoint.

The designers point out, with some justification, that it is extraordinarily difficult to find enduring resources from non-hierarchical societies in Southern and East Africa, and rather than merely making excuses, they are using graphics to fill in the gaps in information. They are planning to change some of the exhibits over the year and panels can even be rewritten as new materials come to light. From May 9 to July 11 there is an

additional exhibition based on Great Zimbabwe, and there is also to be a series of art exhibitions and an impressive range of seminars. The first, on May 4 and 5, was *Africa beyond Africa*, dealing with the influence of African culture in Europe, North and South America and the Caribbean. Three seminars organized in conjunction with the Institute for International Studies allow a pan-African approach: *Africa in World Politics* (May 18-19), *African Cultures and Ecology* (June 25-30), and *Commonwealth Futures: East Africa* (October 17-18). On September 1 a seminar will review Kwame Nkrumah's contribution to

Africa; others will consider *African Cookery* (October 13 and 27), *African Television* (October 24-27), *Women in African Development* (October 20), *African Literature* (November 1-3) and *African Arts and Development* (November 10).

Some, the resident Bookshop, focuses on children's books from Africa throughout June, and a good deal of activity will be aimed at schools. There will be *Stories from Africa* by the Zuriya Performers from May 29 to June 12, *The Music, Story and Dance of Uganda* from June 18 to 29, and the self-described "African road-show" of Agor-Mimba on July 10. Once the new Baraza Room opens in mid-May, school groups can attend 20-minute sessions at which to handle and discuss essentially practical artifacts relating to arts and music, costume, agriculture and staple foods, and similar programmes will be available to family groups on weekends.

What promises to be the most widely attended event is the African village which will transform Holland Park this summer. From July 22 to August 4, traditional musicians from all over Africa will be coming to live and make music in it. As well as two music courses for specialists, there will be a range of events for the general public - concerts by African musicians and contemporary bands like Orchestra Jazira and Abacush by night, more informal concerts and workshops by day, and craft, record and food stalls.

All this is only a selection from the extensive *Africa* programme that unfolds in May! A wealth of information detailing what is on offer for school groups, the general public and students of Africa can be obtained from the Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (tel: 01-603 4535). They don't even require a stamped addressed envelope.

An accompanying book, *Africa. History and Development*, by Basil Davidson, is available from the Institute Bookshop, price £2.95. Basil Davidson is the writer and presenter of the Channel 4 series on Africa (Mondays 9.0pm).

O my ducats!

The Merchant of Venice: Law and Life. Filmstrip and audiocassette £11.75 plus £1.76 VAT. Audio Learning, Sarda House, 183-9 Queensway, London W2 5HL.

If you purchase an audiocassette, you presumably expect to get more than an essay, delivered impassionately by a single voice. If that had been all you wanted, you might more economically have bought a copy of the script and spoken it yourself. Similarly, if you purchase an audiocassette package, you presumably expect to get a "programme", a unity of which the sound and vision elements combine to produce more than the sum of their separate parts.

Merchant of Venice: Law and Life consists of a cassette tape on which an actor reads a script by Richard Selzer. Basically a commentary on the play, this is couched in what might be called a level language and proceeds somewhat stolidly until it reaches Act IV of the play where it does become more

absorbing as it points out the inherent unfairness of the trial. Antonio is in the dock but Shylock receives the sentence. This commentary also makes good sense of the moonlight and music of the play's coda.

Sadly, however, the writer has little conception of how to write an audiovisual script. Frequently the narration confusingly discusses a number of characters before mentioning the ones on the screen.

The visual element is a 33-frame (large format) black and white film-



Shylock: O my ducats! O my daughter!

David Self

Service included

Service compris. A Departmental Resource Service Mary Glasgow Publications £24 + VAT per annual subscription

Question: What support can a publisher bring to hard-pressed French departments? **Answer:** A subscription service providing both professional information and instantly usable teaching materials.

This is the novel concept behind *Service compris*. For £24 a year, subscribers receive each term a pack of "Teacher-Update" modules as well as written and recorded "Resource" modules. Written and visual material (up to 24 slides of A4 per issue) is licensed for copying within the subscriber's school. A ring binder is provided to house the cassettes and the printed

modules, which are colour coded for reference. The editors might note, however, that photocopying from coloured backgrounds can affect the quality of the copies. In the first two issues the professional information includes useful features on French, France and teaching, though the tone is sometimes irritating. Do we need chatty pieces on suppositories, or rabag quizzes? Plaire or instruire? The balance is not quite right in the modules on "language" and "actualités".

The resource modules, however, several by established writers, are consistently good. Covering all the skills at different levels from beginners to sixth form, the materials would slot easily into existing curricula. Ideas for work are outlined precisely, with visuals provided for duplication or

tracing on to OHP foils. Lasting material ("Radio service compris" and "Correspondance sonore") is clear, reasonably paced and semi-authentic, and the tasks set are concrete and entertaining. Richard Morris explains how to set up a departmental reading scheme, and Alan Moys provides several pages of exercises in "reading for real". There are also many excellent puzzles and games.

Overall, *Service compris* is an interesting and welcome initiative. It would be a good buy, on a trial basis, for departments in 11-18 schools wanting to bring in ideas from outside and to build up a bank of supplementary materials. A sample pack is available from Mary Glasgow. £24 + VAT. David Swain

On your bike

With a modicum of luck and the odd drop of oil, 15 million bikes may take to the roads in the next few days, for May 12-19 is National Bike Week. Organized by Friends of the Earth, ROSPA, the Cyclist's Touring Club and the Cycle Campaign Network (that's the one which funds you a Cycle Mate), it is intended to highlight the benefits of cycling, promote road safety for all and, above all, reclaim the roads for the cyclist.

And not before time. Bicycles are quick, quiet and amazingly efficient. Cyclists fitter, freer and probably better tempered than their car-bound cousins, yet Britain's roads are among the worst in Europe for two-wheeled travellers.

To mark the event the organizers have produced an information pack full of useful names and addresses, background information and "good ideas". Did you know that a bicycle does 1,600 miles for the equivalent of a gallon of petrol; that you can sue the council if you damage yourself in one of their potholes; that some employers

pay cycling allowances or that Holland has reduced speed limits in town to 18 mph in the interests of cycle and pedestrian safety.

Also doing the rounds is ROSPA's latest *Bicycle Owner's Handbook*. Every cyclist should have one. It is interesting, informative and crystal clear. I liked the detailed photographs of bicycle maintenance, the cartoons on hazard avoidance and the advice on clothing, portage and general street strategy.

Be prepared then next week for Bike-Ins, Bikeathons, Cycle Picnics and street corner Bike Surgeries. And unless you are one of the 20 per cent who can't ride, why not do your bit, get out your bike and become a real conservationist.

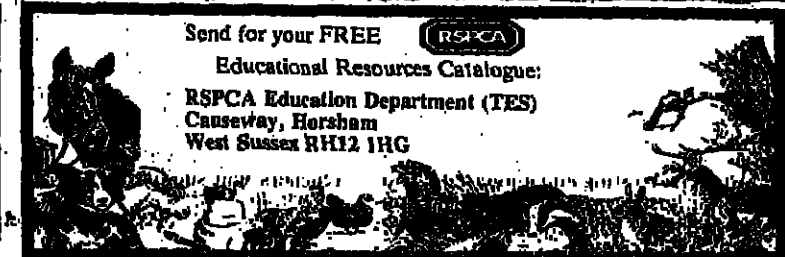
Susan Thomas

notes

IT SUMMER SCHOOL. Nottingham University is the venue for an Information Technology Summer School being run for teachers and lecturers from July 17-19. This is the fourth annual summer school to be held by the Information and Word Processing Association. It provides

a forum for teachers to discuss ideas and developments with members of the business world. There will also be exhibitions of equipment, books and software.

Applicants are advised to book early (£85 + VAT for IWP members, £105 + VAT for non-members). Reservations by telephone on 01-529 2590. Further details from Eve Messum, IWP, c/o Quadrifect, Courtfield House, Baldwin Gardens, London EC1N 7SB (tel 01-242 8697).



PRIMARY HEADS OF DEPARTMENT

BIRKFIELD
CITY OF BIRKFIELD
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
HARRINGTON JUNIOR AND
INFANT SCHOOLS
Norton Avenue, Birkfield 514
Required for September 1984
Headteacher for this Group
School. This is the headship of
the newly amalgamated Harrington
Junior and Infant School.
Application forms and further
details are available from the
Chief Education Officer, County
Hall, Birkfield 514. Closing date
Friday 25th May 1984.
(10455)

KIRKLEES
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
HARRINGTON JUNIOR AND
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KENT
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SEEN ALSO BLACKHEATH
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HEADSHIPS

Westfield Nursery School,
Westfield Road, Dunstable, Beds.
Group 2
This is an 80 place Nursery School.

Elatow Lower School,
High Street, Elatow, Bedford MK42 9XP
Group 3
Estimated number on roll September 1984 - 81 children
aged 5-9 years.

Hillborough Infant School,
Hillborough Road, Luton, Beds. LU1 5EZ
Group 3
Estimated number on roll September 1984 - 122 children
aged 5-7 years.

Icknield Infant School,
Birdsfoot Lane, Luton, Beds. LU3 2JB
Group 4, Plus 1/2 Special Schools Allowance
Estimated number on roll September 1984 - 107 children
aged 5-7 years. There are 14 children currently in atten-
dance in the Hearing Impaired Unit.

Marlborough Lower School,
Marlborough Road, Bedford MK40 4LE
Group 4
Estimated number on roll September 1984 - 141 children
aged 5-8 years.

Farley Junior School,
Northdrift Way, Luton, Beds. LU1 5JF
Group 6
Estimated number on roll September 1984 - 218 children
aged 7-11 years.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and
experienced teachers for the Headships of the above
Schools, from September 1984 or as soon as possible
thereafter.
Application form and further details may be obtained
from the Chief Education Officer, County Hall, Bedford
MK42 9AP.
Closing date: 18th May, 1984. (4398)

Bedfordshire

SURREY

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FRINGE AREA LONDON ALLOWANCE £268 p.a.
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Temporary housing may be available
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HEADSHIP

CHARWOOD COUNTY FIRST SCHOOL
Charwood, Horley

HEADTEACHER required from the commencement of the
Autumn Term or as soon as possible thereafter for this Group 2
First School for pupils aged 5-9 years.
NOR: 43
Salary scale £9504-£10,536 p.a.
Application forms and further details available from
County Education Officer (T/P/EB), County Hall, Kingston
upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2DQ. Completed applications
should be returned not later than 26 May 1984. Previous
applicants need not re-apply.

ilea

Inner London
Education Authority

HEADSHIPS

ST MONICA'S RC (JMA) SCHOOL
HOXTON SQUARE, (OLD STREET), N1 6NT

Roll 212 plus 20 P/T and 23 P/T nursery. Applications are invited from
suitably qualified and experienced Catholic teachers holding the Catholic
Teachers' Religious Certificate. Vacant now. Burnham Group 4 plus Inner
London allowance.
Please send toolscap s.a.e. for application form and further details to the
Chairman of Governors, Rev. Fr. Dunn, St Monica's Priory, 19 Hoxton
Square, N1 6NT, Tel: 739 5006, to whom completed forms should be
returned by 22nd May.
ST. MARY'S BALHAM CE (JMA) AND NURSERY SCHOOL
6 BALHAM PARK ROAD, BALHAM SW12 9BR
Applications are invited for the Headship of this school, vacant from 1st
September, 1984. Burnham Group 5 plus Inner London allowance. The
Governors are seeking to appoint a communicant member of the Church
of England. Must have a commitment to church and community life of the
area. There is a very close link between church and school, which share
the same site.
Application forms available from Mrs C. Udell, Clerk to the Governors, 69
Surrey Road, Balham SW12 9HZ. Completed forms, together with open
toolscap and names of referees should be returned by Friday, 26th
May, 1984.
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HEADTEACHER

GROUP 6

HOLY TRINITY C of E (AIDED)
JUNIOR SCHOOL
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From 1 September, 1984.
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successful candidate will be expected to maintain
the school's close spiritual links with the local
Anglican Evangelical Church.
Telephone 01-661 5741 for application form and
further particulars. 24 hour answering service.
Closing Date: 18th May, 1984.

LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON

The Grove, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 3AL

HAMPSHIRE

ITCHEN ABBAS COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
Itchen Abbas SO21 1BE (Group 2)

FAIR OAK COUNTY INFANT SCHOOL
Botley Road, Fair Oak SO5 7AN (Group 4)

CUPERNHAM COUNTY JUNIOR SCHOOL
Bransley Close, Romsey SO5 8JT (Group 6)

HEADTEACHERS

required for these schools for 1st January, 1985.

Details and application forms available from:
The Area Education Officer, Southgate
House, St Swithun St, Winchester on
receipt of a foolscap s.a.e.

Closing date for completed application
forms 4th June, 1984. (4832)

HEADTEACHER

Required January 1985.

MYLAND COUNTY PRIMARY
SCHOOL (Group 5), Mill Road,
Mile End, Colchester.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified
and experienced Teachers for appointment of
Head of this school.
Removal and disturbance allowance scheme
in operation.

Please send s.a.e. (foolscap) for application
form and details to: County Education
Officer, PO Box 47, Threadneedle House,
Market Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1LD.
Closing date: 1st June, 1984. (4830)

ESSEX

County Council

DEPUTY

HEADTEACHER

Group 4

TWEEDDALE INFANTS'
SCHOOL
Paisley Road
Carshalton, Surrey

From 1st September 1984 or 1st January 1985.

The school has approximately 220 pupils on roll
including 60 full-time equivalent in 2 nursery classes.
Further particulars and application form from the
Director of Education, The Grove, Carshalton, Surrey
SM5 3AL (S.A.E. please). 24 hour telephone answering
service (01-661 5741).
Closing date 24th May 1984. (4471)

London Borough of Sutton

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Carshalton, Surrey

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Further particulars and application form from the
Director of Education, The Grove, Carshalton, Surrey
SM5 3AL (S.A.E. please). 24 hour telephone answering
service (01-661 5741).
Closing date 24th May 1984. (4471)

London Borough of Sutton

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admission, positions 1;
after, a Teacher of BUSI-
NESS STUDIES (Scale 1) to assist
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Applicants should have sympathy with the aims of the Church of England Schools Council. The appointment will be temporary for one year in the first instance. Salary £11,000. Inner London Allowance £987.

Application forms are available by telephoning the secretary on 01-992 5566, Ext. 2569.

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EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT
EAST RIDING DIVISION**

WILLERBY WOLFRETCH SCHOOL
South Elm Way, Kirkcaldy
Fife KY11 7LU
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SCALE 1
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1984, a full-time teacher

of Commercial Studies with Girls' Physical Education. Part-time teachers of Commercial Studies should also apply.

Application forms further details are available from the Head of school (S.A.E. please) whom completed forms should be returned to

21st May 1984. (19432)
131

will be fully involved in a well established programme of rural environmental education which is provided for residential day groups from LEA primary schools. Applicants must have completed probationary period. Additional requirements should include a driving licence and skills in the creative teaching aids duplicated and chaplains. This post is additional to the post recently advertised. Applicants applied last term are now being considered and need not re-apply. For details and an application form, contact the author.

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permanently post at Lecture 11 (turn equivalent). Will be based at the Centre, Ebury Bridge, SW1, with Authority-wide assignment to support and develop Music activities in youth community centres. Applicants should have substantial experience and interest and have organising abilities. The T will develop multi-cultural aspects of music programme. Application forms and further details are available from Education Officer, EO/TS123, Room 201, The County Hall, SE1 7PB (Tel: 01 330346) to whom completed forms should be returned. Closing date Friday, 18 April 1984.

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Further details and application forms

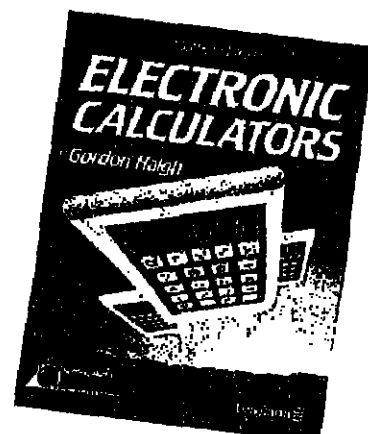
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Suitably qualified person required as
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Classroom organization—
does it add up?

by David Playfoot

The current emphasis on management skills for headteachers and senior staff is one which I welcome, but it can lead one into delusions of grandeur where you feel like the chairman of ICI but only have one telephone and a part-time secretary with which to run your empire. A short step into the classroom will bring you back to reality; here is an organizational context of subtlety and complexity which is a never ending source of challenge and debate.

Mathematics plays a key role in structuring this organization and, because of the nature of the subject, the answers it throws up have an inevitability other areas of the curriculum lack. The primary classroom is a place of great diversity and differentiation where a whole range of skills, ideas, content etc. are being acquired at any one time; it is only in mathematics that there is a very precise hierarchical development which has been defined and generally agreed.

There is, I believe, overwhelming evidence that in order to teach mathematics effectively we need exposition by the teacher, practical activity and the opportunity to verbalize by the pupil — we know what should be happening; making it happen is another matter.

If one tries to take an individualized approach or use schemes which lend themselves to that teaching style, the sheer practicality of carrying out weighing, classifying, using clock faces etc. becomes a barrier to learning. The third law of aerodynamics is "As activity increases so order decreases" and so it is in the classroom — as the number of tasks we expect our children to undertake grows, all too often it is the very structured work required in mathematics that goes to the wall.

In all subjects we need to know what children are achieving, but it is vital in mathematics to know the stage at which the child is confident and competent. Classroom organization must, therefore meet these needs while balancing the requirements of other curriculum areas.

The need to group I have for some years now believed that the skillful and well-planned group work is the most effective way of coping with the problem. This in no way excludes individual and class teaching but it does mean that the basic organizational unit is the group.

In "The Glade" school the bulk of the mathematics teaching is carried out in ability groups. The group composition is decided by each class teacher using his/her knowledge of the pupils combined, in the case of older pupils, with standardized testing. There is, of course, great flexibility in the set-up and there is always a need for some movement between groups.

We have developed our own mathematics teaching scheme based around *Ginn Mathematics*; the Nuffield Teachers' Resource Books and some SMP Card Boxes are used as back up materials. To give some idea of how this works in practice here are two examples of classroom organization.

Reception Class
Our reception class teacher starts the new term's intake on a series of "Readiness Lessons" as one group and uses this time to observe children's mathematical ability and make initial judgments as to future grouping. For ease of teaching these dozen or so pupils, she sometimes makes two mixed-ability groups — this depends on the objective under discussion and degree of supervised activity involved. After this initial process, which may take up to a term and a half, the children are placed in ability groups and mathematically determined units form the basis for some of the general classroom work.

Very occasionally the teacher will give a class lesson on a theme or idea which can be followed up at different levels or serve as reinforcement to some and an introduction to others. For example, a lesson on "tall" and "short".

At present there are three main groups in this class, two ability groups



While the teacher is working with a maths group the rest of the class may be involved in a number of activities, carefully set-up before the lesson starts

working at different levels and one group, which is sometimes split into two, working on the readiness lessons. Some mathematical work is undertaken every day.

While the teacher is working practically and talking with a maths group the rest of the class may be involved in a variety of activities, all of which have been carefully set-up before the lesson starts.

This is essential because of the nature of the practical work undertaken in the structured teaching of mathematics and requires the most detailed planning. When it begins to work it makes for extremely effective teaching!

Second Year Junior Class
This class has four ability groups which work mainly on levels 3 and 4 of the Ginn Maths. The group structure is reviewed every half-term in the light of the scheme's assessment work and the teacher's monitoring of progress.

As in the reception class there will be times when a thematic approach is used with the whole class — for example on shapes and angles which is then followed up on an individual basis. The SMP work cards are sometimes used for this work or the teacher's own ideas for artwork or further mathematical development.

This approach is also used to re-define the framework into mixed groups which can work on particular problems or projects in a cooperative way. At this age we emphasize the "across the curriculum" links and mathematics will often be an important part of environmental studies scheme. For example, this class was recently working on compass and mapping skills and this was treated as a class lesson linked into mathematics. Sometimes, all groups work on mathematics but more frequently the teacher sets other tasks for the day on the board and withdraws groups one at a time to make her teaching unit. A very bright or gifted child works on her own on an individual programme making use of a variety of materials including SMP cards, Ginn "Enrichment Cards" and teacher-made resources.

In the class, at present the slowest children happen to make a homogeneous group but clearly there

are occasions where one or two children of particularly low ability will need individual teaching.

One of the problems encountered when the school used a more individualized approach was that we were being forced into a "breakdown" model of teaching where the teacher was bound dealing with pupils problems as the "breakdown" occurred; the teaching in-put was invariably at the wrong time.

Resources
The resources used in mathematics teaching are crucial but we find little need for special equipment other than materials like Diennes Apparatus and Unifix — each school has its own favourites. The school, its pupils, furniture and general equipment provide a potential wealth of mathematical experiences.

We have a central maths resource area with a whole range of small objects (such as paper clips, metal pins, counters) for sorting, classifying and counting and general equipment divided up into the following sections: shape, money, number, time, volume, length, sorting and games.

As well as the centrally stored equipment there is a whole range of class based resources which are more age specific or in very regular use. We are fortunate in having a semi-open planned school with shared resource areas.

With an emphasis on practical activity and discussion, and with recording only coming as the final stage of the process, I am convinced that the structure which a group organization gives to the class is invaluable. I have seen real continuity and progression over the past year, which has come about through teachers analyzing their practice and developing a consensus in their approach to mathematics teaching — combined with the provision of essential resources. Most importantly, many of our pupils are experiencing that confidence and satisfaction that goes with a genuine understanding of mathematical skills, concepts and facts.

David Playfoot is headmaster of Glade Primary School, Brandon, Suffolk.

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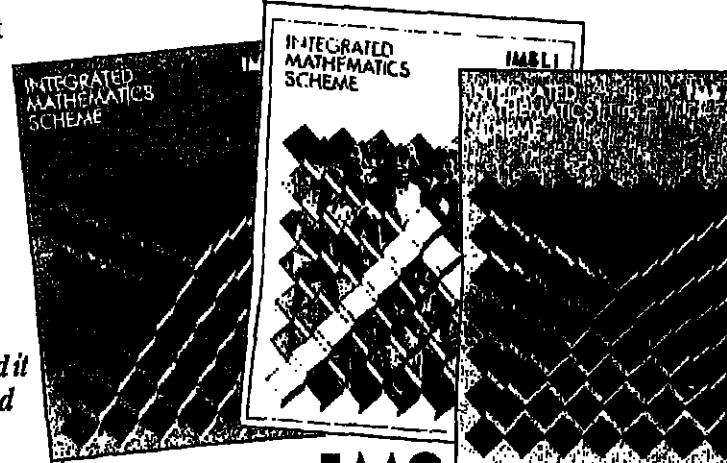
7 The Introductory Courses, A and B, contain the same main chapters with differing exercises; again, pupils can change course without moving out of their class as their ability develops. Teachers can thus easily cope with mixed ability and setted classes.

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EXTRA

An unattractive option?

Attitudes of final year mathematics undergraduates to a career in school teaching

Report by Neil Straker

The Cockcroft Report (*Mathematics Counts*, HMSO, 1982) draws attention to the need for an adequate supply of mathematics specialists in teaching.

"There can be no doubt that the most important resource for good mathematics teaching is an adequate supply of competent mathematics teachers" (para 618).

Mathematics has been recognized as a shortage subject for some time now. The 1977 Secondary Staffing Survey estimated a shortage of 3,000 suitably qualified teachers of mathematics, while the Cockcroft Report suggested that 5,000 mathematics teachers had a "nil" qualification in the subject and a further 4,000 had "weak qualifications".

A recent TES article ("English and maths graduates target unlikely to be met", *TES*, January 20) draws attention to the fact that secondary schools alone will need to recruit 1,500 mathematics specialists by 1995 if projected needs are to be met. The view of the Advisory Committee on the Supply and Education of Teachers is that it is unlikely that these targets will be reached, and the committee is considering special measures designed to attract more recruits to mathematics teaching in the next few years.

In recent years, less than 10 per cent of graduates in mathematical studies at universities in England and Wales have enrolled for PGCE courses. "This figure contrasts with the fact that in 1938 over 75 per cent of newly qualified graduates in mathematics entered the teaching profession. In 1964 the proportion had decreased to 30 per cent, by 1974 to 17 per cent." (Cockcroft Report, para 638)

"Teaching is low paid and there is no job satisfaction"

During the 1970s, local authorities experienced considerable difficulty in filling mathematics posts in their schools, with many vacancies attracting only a handful of applicants. There has obviously been an increasing demand for mathematicians to pursue careers in industry, commerce and the computing world during recent years, but there are also indications that an increasing proportion of mathematics undergraduates see teaching as an unattractive option for a variety of reasons.

Cockcroft refers to an AGCAS (Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services) inquiry into reasons for the poor recruitment of mathematics graduates into teaching: "The principal factors are pay and prospects within the teaching profession and also perceived problems of discipline in schools: these factors are common to teachers of all subjects. Additional factors relating to mathematics are the fact that mathematics is thought to be a difficult subject to teach and that, because it is a compulsory subject for pupils up to the age of 16, mathematics classes are likely to be larger and to contain a higher proportion of less well motivated pupils than in the case with many other subjects which are optional after the age of 14" (para 639).

"I wouldn't teach if it were the only job offered to me in the next twenty years"

The men were perhaps more concerned with material issues. They agreed more strongly that "industry pays better", "teachers enjoy excellent working hours", and were less inclined to disagree with the statement that "maths teachers should be paid more than teachers of other subjects".

There were two surprising outcomes: first, that the women expressed some disagreement with the view that maths teaching was male-dominated in terms of career prospects; and that despite the apparently greater commitment and level of caring shown by the female respondents, they were more prepared to accept the idea of forcing children to conform to a system.

71% of the group who stated that they were likely to teach under any circumstances argued that they did not have the necessary equipment, and

that they were not sufficient in time to do so.

The AGCAS survey suggested that an increase in both pay and prospects would aid recruitment, and also stressed that teaching was seen as a low status occupation with a poor image which needed to be improved. Cockcroft recommends that the Department of Education and Science and I.E.A. should work together in advising and informing final year undergraduates of the attractions of a career in teaching.

The writer has recently conducted a study of the attitudes of final year mathematics undergraduates towards a career in teaching. Replies were received from a total of 169 undergraduates in six universities. The survey is not considered to be representative of the views of all final year mathematics students, as one would expect a greater response rate from those who are considering a career in teaching.

"Teaching maths would give me real satisfaction"

Ninety-seven per cent of respondents were in the age range 20 to 22. The sex distribution was 54 per cent male, 46 per cent female.

Twenty-nine respondents (17 per cent) stated that teaching was their first choice as a career, 67 (40 per cent) said that they would not teach under any circumstances, and 73 (43 per cent) were considering a career in teaching but would prefer other occupations.

Sixty-one per cent of respondents had attended a comprehensive school. The undergraduates were asked to write down their first choice of career. There were 148 replies, the most popular choices being computing (30 replies), teaching (29), accountancy (22), research (12) and banking (8).

When asked to estimate their starting salary in teaching 40 per cent gave estimates in the range £5,750 - £6,750 pa, 46 per cent estimated below this range and 14 per cent above. At the time of the survey the Burnham salary scale ranged from £5,778 pa for graduates with a PGCE to £6,405 pa for good honours graduates with a teaching qualification.

The main part of the questionnaire required responses on a Likert Scale expressing level of agreement or disagreement with a series of 39 prepared statements on attitudes towards a career in teaching.

In general the views expressed by female undergraduates suggested a higher level of commitment and caring than from their male peers, the women appearing to see teaching more in vocational terms. The female students disagreed more strongly with statements such as "teaching is a dull, boring job", "teaching would be a waste of my degree", and "maths is easy to teach". The women also agreed more strongly than the men that they would enjoy the social work aspect of teaching, and were more prepared to teach less able pupils.

"I still see teaching as a responsible and respectable profession"

Those who had indicated a desire to teach often appeared to be attracted to the profession on idealistic grounds, the desire to influence attitudes, and the challenge of trying to convert pupils in mathematics while enjoying the social worker role coming through as major determinants influencing their choice of career.

This group was also more optimistic about promotion prospects. The view was expressed that teaching was a challenging, rewarding career which offered real job satisfaction, although the students recognized that there might be some difficulties regarding discipline and they anticipated a demanding workload.

The undergraduates who were undecided about teaching as a career were asked to specify any incentives which might persuade them to turn to teaching. An increase in salary was seen as the most obvious incentive, although better discipline in comprehensive schools and better promotion prospects were also mentioned.

Some students commented on the benefits of a "mathematics teaching" option in the final year of their undergraduate courses, which can give students an insight into opportunities in teaching.

Perhaps the greatest cause of concern is a view expressed by many students that there has been a lack of effective publicity aimed at attracting mathematics graduates into teaching. It seems essential that a greater effort is made to make undergraduates in the short age range of mathematics, computing and physics aware of the possible rewards and satisfaction of a career in teaching, and to improve the somewhat tarnished image of the comprehensive system. Given the economic climate there would appear to be few other means available of boosting recruitment figures.

Not Straker is lecturer in education at the University of York.



educational institutions. A few students in this group saw mathematics teaching as somewhat tedious and boring with low status, and they had little desire to teach less-able pupils.

The results indicate that many students in the "No" sample felt that teaching would present them with a challenge and level of responsibility which they would find difficult to accept. Some students expressed concern about discipline in many comprehensive schools, often referring to their own school experiences. These students were also apprehensive about the difficulty of teaching pupils who "did not want to learn" and felt that teachers had a very demanding workload. The students did see some attractions in teaching however: long holidays and job security.

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The children enjoyed a meaningful experience in an area of mathematics they might not otherwise have been considered ready for. Certainly they were fortunate in working with a teacher who held back and waited, sensitively, to see what would happen instead of saying "Don't worry, these are decimals, we'll do them later," or leaping in with a lesson on some aspect or other of the situation.

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Other i.e.s. had made the machines available cheaply but this meant schools had to "contract in". The effect of the Suffolk initiative was to put calculators into every school in the county. Official blessing and an intensive follow-up encouraged teachers to begin trial use. The result is an acceptance of calculators as a fact of modern life.

It was quickly seen that they offered another embodiment of ideas and processes already taught. Their value as a visual tool in the teaching of place value and the investigation of number patterns was evident.

Subsequent moves must be towards their real integration into the existing curriculum. Discussion at INSET meetings has indicated three clear stages, though there are schools and individuals at each stage. The initial stage involves introducing the calculators, characterized by discussion about

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A few schools are beginning to move into a third stage of reflection on what has been learned, together with implications for the curriculum. In particular, schools which have the confidence to make calculators freely available for sensible classroom use report that mathematical situations and needs arise at the oddest moments and can be capitalized upon there and then.

The presence of the calculator seems to give children the confidence to raise points and tackle problems that might otherwise have been lost. Although most schools have gone on to purchase

further machines, there is a strong feeling that one per pupil is not a desirable target since it would inhibit the lively discussion which is seen as a positive by-product of their presence. Discreet use has not been reported, though claims of gains in understanding are commonplace.

All this is a far cry from the early days when children found extra "calculator maths" grafted onto their "normal" maths work. Teachers have found that though there is an initial need for some direct teaching on use of the hardware, familiarization is rapid.

Tim, seven and a half, found that 37 and 74 totalled 111. Fascinated by this number, he took the calculator to add more 37s. Asked by his teacher why he had keyed in a constant of 111, he explained "that's three thirty-sevens - and it's just quicker."

His manipulation of the keyboard and viewing of the display went on consistently as he wrote, delighted when he reached 1,110, then 2,220 and so on. After quite a time he went up to 11,100, at each stage writing down the numbers and putting comments upon the relevance of particular results. He displayed confidence, satisfaction and a self-generated excitement.

Compare this with copying down a "sum", applying a rule and putting down an answer, knowing that this process would have to be repeated many times. Experience has shown that however unambitious the initial level of calculator use (games, checking results) the knowledge that they are there soon leads into far more demanding activities as well as allowing real data to be handled and investigated.

Much remains to be done, but - in Suffolk at least - the electronic calculator has taken its place as another

Calculators across the county

by Laurie Rousham and Bernard Bagnall

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Much remains to be done, but - in Suffolk at least - the electronic calculator has taken its place as another

ready for a calculator? teaching aid in the classroom. We welcome it in the belief that it will help pupils to take more responsibility for their own work instead of offering completed sums up to the teacher, with fatalistic resignation, for the ritual ticks and crosses.

Laurie Rousham and Bernard Bagnall are mathematics co-ordinators at urban schools in Suffolk.

EXTRA

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Whatever happened to geometry

by David Fielker

Probably the most quoted paragraph from the Cockcroft report is 2.11 which gives "problem solving and 'investigational work' equal status with more traditional modes of mathematics teaching. The report goes on to give a paragraph of brief description to each of the six modes, which make none of them very clear.

This lack of clarity is a common feature of the report, so much so that one is tempted to credit the committee with deliberate obscurity in order to provoke the amount of discussion that still prevails up and down the country, though there are of course other possible explanations, one being that the report would have been impossible long if everything had been discussed fully.

If one looks for clarification in terms of syllabus then one is disappointed. Actual mathematical content receives short shrift, perhaps rightly so. And if one looks for something about geometry in particular then it is hard to find. I tried getting in the index (Germany is given five different pages), but soon realized that in general mathematical content was not listed there. There is a paragraph on *shape and space* in the section on practical work in the primary chapter, and at secondary level one is left with the spatial concepts section of the Foundation List. There, if one discounts items that would be classified under measurement or coordinate systems, one is left with a curiously disjointed and banal collection of ideas that in no way gives any indication of how problem solving or investigational work might apply to geometry.

It could be a reflection of the times. A look through any set of CSE or O level examination papers reveals a strange picture of geometry. The so-called revolutions of the 1960s have left some very hackneyed questions involving vectors, matrix transformations or symmetry operations, according to syllabus, which exist side by side with the same old Euclidean problems about angles associated with triangles and parallels or the circle theorems. One cannot help feeling that Euclid still has all the problems, but in the same stylized way that continues to be inaccessible to most pupils - and Cockcroft is very firm about that.

I have been finding it a useful exercise on many occasions to take some of the geometrical items in the Foundation List and turn them into problems or investigations that are accessible to most children, taking perhaps the positive view that this is the sort of thing that Cockcroft intended us to do.

One shall deal with the first example in detail and with the others more briefly. "Draw a simple plane figure to given specifications."

Look in any textbook under this sort of heading and one finds the standard constructions for triangles, rectangles and perhaps other quadrilaterals, using "rules", compasses, set square,

protractor" as Cockcroft goes on to specify. Is that any sort of problem, other than the problem of remembering what to do?

Suppose instead one is asked to sketch, rather than construct, a regular octagon. Sketching involves one in thinking about angle, shape and symmetry. Too easy? Try a regular pentagon. Or a regular nonagon (9 sides). Or a heptagon (7 sides). Or a dodecagon (12 sides). You have to do it to feel what is involved.

This is so different from construction, where one is involved firstly in a (probably routine) calculation, and then a routine drawing.

Once you (or your pupils) have the hang of that, we can make it more interesting - that is, more difficult. (I choose my words carefully. Somebody recently suggested to me that mathematics was always either too easy or too hard. Teachers are too often trying to make it too easy. The secret is to make it hard enough to be an interesting challenge, while remaining accessible.)

Consider a dodecagon in which all 12 sides are equal, but each alternate angle is twice one of the angles in between. That is, if you like, the angles are alternately $x, 2x$. (It is strange how difficult it can sometimes be to explain a simple idea. It is like all those CSE questions that were rendered incomprehensible by a felt need to be mathematically correct.)

Again, you are to sketch this shape, not construct it. And if you have not realized it already, sketching involves a lot of trial and error. Unlike construction, it is not necessary to get it right first time, and being a sketch it need not anyway be absolutely correct.

The nice thing about this problem is that it is generalizable. That is, one can turn it into an investigation. The essence of an investigation, as I see it, is that it is the pupils, rather than the teacher or textbook or worksheet or examination paper, who ask the questions.

You will have found, if you are working through this as you go rather than merely reading it, that the dodecagon turns out to be a sort of 6-pointed star. It may occur to you to ask what shape is produced by imposing the same restrictions on other polygons.

Try sketching polygons with 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, or even 24 sides, keeping the same 1:2 ratio between adjacent angles. You may start to calculate whenever you feel like doing so, and using any method you wish.

As you continue, you will produce

other problems. There is a sudden change in overall shape as the number of sides decreases, and the curious "octagon" requires an explanation or even redefinition! And you may like to investigate what happens as the number of sides increases and becomes very large.

Alternative questions may occur to you. Instead of, or as well as, changing the number of sides, you may wish to change the ratio of adjacent angles, perhaps successively to 1:3, 1:4, 1:5, etc; or to 2:3; or to have triples of adjacent angles in the proportion of 1:2:3, etc. And you may be on the lookout for the same sort of curiosity that occurred before with the octagon.

"Understand and use terms such as ..."

I could never understand the fuss made about perimeter, or why it has been given the same status as area, as it has here. The fuss obscures the simple idea that in practice one measures round the edge of a shape and in theory one merely adds some lengths together. The equal status usually ensures that pupils confuse the two names and calculate one instead of the other.

Traditional so-called problems involve finding perimeters of shapes. The Foundation List also has, "Find the perimeter and area of a rectangle," which compounds the confusion.

Suppose instead we give the perimeter and ask for the shape? Or the shapes? For example, a question on a mode III CSE examination paper in 1967 said: "A polygon is to be made from a piece of string 24 inches long. Investigate the possibilities."

It helps to look at particular sets of shapes. For instance, some of the candidates looked at triangles, perhaps finding all the possibilities with integral sides, and some looked at regular polygons.

Suppose one looked at shapes which could be drawn on squared paper, on the lines only. Can you find all the possibilities for a perimeter of 10?

And then all those for 8, 6, 12, etc? (Why only even numbers, and which is the smallest perimeter possible?) How can you be sure when you have all the possibilities for each?

"Appreciate the properties of parallelism and perpendicularity."

Let us suppose each adjacent pair of sides of a polygon is perpendicular. The rectangle is the simplest example. After that there are several possibilities for any given number of sides. This looks similar to the last question about perimeters, but now lengths are irrelevant. For eight sides, for instance,

there are these possibilities.

Investigate! Alternatively, investigate the maximum number of right angles any polygon can have.

Both these problems are easy to understand, because they only involve the idea of a right angle and the idea of a polygon, which practically all children have from an early age. The first problem is easy to work at and has many interesting facets. The second can be more restricted but is more difficult. In both cases the difficulties arise not so much from any complex mathematical content but from the organization involved.

The idea of perpendicularity normally receives no mention in any syllabus, and little use is made of it. Parallelism usually gets bogged down in parallelograms and angle properties. One can, of course, superimpose sets of parallel lines but this hardly sets any problems. Now suppose one looks at the possibilities for making sides of a hexagon parallel, and tries to find all the ways that it can be done.

The basic ideas in geometry are very simple, possibly much simpler than in numerical branches of mathematics, and here I am only referring to old-fashioned geometry, not the various forms of transformation geometry, about which similar things need to be said. It is not necessary to go very far with geometrical content in order to pose problems and investigations with varying degrees of complexity. The advantage is that the low content makes the problems immediately accessible to most children, and it is the flexibility which can enable all of them to find problems at appropriate levels of difficulty. The same cannot be said so easily about numerical problems.

Yet geometry continues to be neglected compared to other branches of mathematics, and what there is in textbooks or examinations is sadly unimaginative. I have tried to suggest ways of remedying this in a recent series of articles in *Mathematics Teaching*, now available in a booklet, "Removing the Shackles of Euclid," available from ATM, Kings Cross, Queens Street, Derby DE1 3DA, at £2. Marion Walker also has found it easy to select a large collection of articles on geometry from past issues of the same journal in a booklet in the same series called "Geometry", £3. Also available from ATM is *Geometric Images* at £4.50.

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Mathematical modesty

Barbara Hilton suggests that arts graduates should be accredited with the skills they often disclaim

The mathematically modest denies skill in this subject to such an extent that references to maths is flippant, shunned, even feared. An archetypal sufferer is an arts graduate, disclaiming mathematical or numerical skill, while competently holding down a professional job.

The syndrome in adults has been recognised in different forms. For example:

"Maths anxiety has been variously described as 'sudden death' by Tobias ... and 'panic' by Buxton."

"This apparently widespread perception amongst adults of mathematics as a daunting subject pervaded a great deal of the sample selection."

"The feelings of guilt to which we referred earlier appear to be especially marked among those whose academic qualifications were not confined to those in unskilled work or of minimal education."

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But for whatever reason such response is offered, is it a fair reflection of ineptitude?

It is likely our modest intellectual skills the usual mathematical requirements of everyday life, shops around for the best buy, most favourable credit terms, estimates the latest train which can be decently caught, or allow rotation, even gauges the risk of not doing so.

All these activities - and many more

involve mathematical skills and judgments to be made. Why, then, are they discounted? Could it be that because acknowledgement is not given for competence in mathematics within professional, academic and subject areas, then mathematical skill is overlooked?

I do not have in mind simply the direct use of arithmetic as, for example, in linguistics where the frequency of occurrence of a certain word or phrase may need to be calculated in order to quantitatively describe a particular style. I refer to the understanding of maths implicit in the very use of language, in the weighing of historical evidence, in the practice of design.

How, for example, can the time lapses and telescoping of experience in novels such as Virginia Woolf's *Orlando* be measured, assessed and enjoyed unless the reader comprehends a linear timescale and digressions from it, and so can measure the intervals of Orlando's life against those of the evolving historical background?

Within the pages of her novel, Virginia Woolf explores the concept of time: an hour, for the human spirit, may be stretched indefinitely or contracted to a mere instant. This is remarkable, worth pausing over, leads to splendid flights of the imagination, only if mathematical ideas of unit value and linear scale are understood. I think it very likely our graduate in arts has a wide range of mathematical skills and is only shy of acknowledging them.

How frequently does the historian pause to consider the process of seeking evidence, constructing an argument and reaching a conclusion? Are there not skills being used of matching, sorting, using maps and diagrams, calculating elapsed time, using representational symbols, estimating probabilities, recognising symmetry (of ideas, perhaps), considering rates of change?

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or learning of skills which is required; rather, an awareness that they are held. Over the last few years much work has been done on criterion-referenced accreditation schemes for 16-19 year olds which, I believe, could serve adults well.

As an example of how such a system works, let us look at the practical profile schemes, operated by the RSA. Within these schemes, checklists of skills (at present, communication skills and numeracy) are set over the whole curriculum - not just synonymous subject areas - and students are given credit for those skills in which they can demonstrate competence. This approach could be applied to any course at any level and will accredit the variety of skills held across different subject areas.

A look at some particular skills illustrates my point. For example:

● Copying numerical information;
● Sequencing items, events;
● Identifying and using appropriate calculations with whole numbers;
● Locating objects/places using the point of compass; and
● Handling time, using the 12h/24h systems and a calendar.

These skills (chosen from a list of 90 or so) provide a tool for reviewing the whole curriculum. In a typical further education course this would include general education and vocational subjects, work experience and electives, and opportunities for learning and accreditation of the course components.

Such a review could be carried out in degree-level courses in any subject area. The RSA scheme I have referred to requires documentation of skills,

discussion of progress by teacher and student together and verification of achievement by the examining board. This leads to a certificate which is a positive statement of skills demonstrated.

Let us return to our modest arts graduate: English scholar, historian or designer. Through curriculum already followed the graduate could be accredited with skills such as those listed above - or more sophisticated ones, covering for example understanding of rates of change and geometry which may be inherent in intellectual argument and constructions.

This need not, I believe, detract from the aesthetic value of major subject area and just think of the increasing awareness, confidence and practical application of mathematical skills which would unfold. Let us give credit where credit's due.

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RSA represents the Royal Society of Arts Examinations Board, John Adam Street, Adelphi, London WC2N 6EZ.

Dr Barbara Hilton is Inspector for Further and Higher Education, ILEA. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the ILEA.



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Tackling the transfer

Phil Miley on cooperation between secondary and primary schools

Once real success in generating one's own method from raw data is experienced, the feeling is so powerful and infectious that students are prepared to strive for it again. Many 11-year-olds come to this position in a few months.

Why does the right answer "come" to students? Which students have it? Which students have inquiring minds and are "conscious" in tackling "real" problems? These are questions which concern us in the faculty. We need to know where each child stands in order to provide the most efficient support and materials. How can we gain this information?

In the county of Ayr a great deal of effort was spent in designing the mathematical transfer record card. For all its good points there are drawbacks. Firstly, the information it provides is subjective. The transmitter and the receiver may work on different criteria and hence the wrong information may be communicated. Secondly, it cannot indicate attitude to the subject.

The solution to the problems of transfer are not solely to be found by using the machinery provided by the county.

Visits to feeder primary schools might provide some greater aware-

ness. Single visits will not suffice, however, since activities observed might be atypical. To make even the vaguest hypotheses several visits are necessary. Such a programme is time consuming and needs to be conducted sensitively.

Secondary school teachers have some non-contact time, but there are innumerable demands upon it and action research may not be a priority. However, we found that after external examinations were completed by the fifth year more of this time became available.

Faculty members, supporting the idea of visits, offered to cover my teaching commitments using these external periods. Sensitivity to the feelings of primary school teachers is paramount. No teacher approaches members of a different institution adopting a dictatorial or patronising role.

I believe it is advisable, as I did, to make it clear to the primary school that the secondary school teachers recognize the sovereignty of the primary school and have no right to attempt to impose their methodology.

The solution to the problems of transfer are not solely to be found by using the machinery provided by the county.

asked for help in gathering information about primary school methods and about the attitude of the students.

It soon became clear during the visits that my feelings about the attitude of the students (based on my observations) would be generalizations and at the primary age, anyway, attitudes were likely to be fluid. Attitudes of staff may provide a clearer picture but in a short programme of visits there is no guarantee that these could be established accurately.

However, I don't doubt that the attitudes adopted by staff have an influence on the thinking of students. The only hard information that can be gleaned is from studying closely the classroom activities witnessed. There can be dangers in generalizing from this. One can not assume that a teacher always uses the method observed. However in a series of visits, classroom activities at other end of a continuum were evident. At one extreme there was active involvement with resources at the other, there was passive learning.

The first type of activity allowed great freedom for the students to explore and design their own methods. The second type, which was more structured, involved the teacher in a more active role.

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student's process was monitored closely and misconceptions handled sensitively. The students were confident, prepared to talk about their ideas and perceptions and were able to enter a dialogue about patterns and structures underlying the materials and resources used.

The second type of activity involved answering very structured questions. The students, during this activity, were more hesitant and were often stymied when problems were re-stated from an unusual angle. The mathematics was passive: to be learnt rather than created. The activity was taking no account of the human power to arrange the experiences provided by the real world.

It was comforting and reassuring to the faculty to hear that active learning styles were used in primary schools. Passive learning styles are common in many secondary schools. Thus a criticism is intended of primary teachers in particular for creating a passive environment. They suffer, may all do, from parental pressure. They are not specialist mathematicians and may have been unsuccessful mathematically.

However, the passive attitude adopted in schools is not cause for self-reliance, and the belief that mathematics is something other than a description of reality. The can prove a difficult starting place for students in their years in secondary school if involvement is required of them.

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EXTRA

Mathematics for the somewhat able

A reminder by Martin Wallis

"Why can't we do proper sums?" So says the pupil, denied the chance of filling an hour peacefully rehearsing the same techniques.

Whether it is our pupil or the teacher, irritated by such comments, who is more annoyed is debatable. The sad fact is that it is often easier for both the teacher and taught (or occupier and occupied?) to churn out routine arithmetic or routine calculations of a more complicated kind than to do some mathematical thinking. Of course it still happens, though the belief that that repetitive practice alone will suffice to allow the process of learning to take place is no longer held, at least not in educational circles.

It will not be news to many that mathematical investigations often start from a seed, probably a simple idea, which germinates on the drive to school and blossoms in the classroom, or so we hope.

A Christmas cracker teaser such as "How many squares are there on a chessboard?" typifies the approach. In order to solve the problem it is necessary to decide on a method of attack, such as try it for a 1×1 board, a 2×2 board, a 3×3 board, a 4×4 board and so on until the point is reached where you can generalize: $1, 5, 14, 30, \dots$

The object is primarily to give the pupils confidence to tackle problems, and the role of the teacher is to lead the pupils to think up their own line of approach, to encourage the flagging spirit and to extend the problem where necessary: How many in a 100×100

board? a $n \times n$ board? How many rectangles in a chessboard?

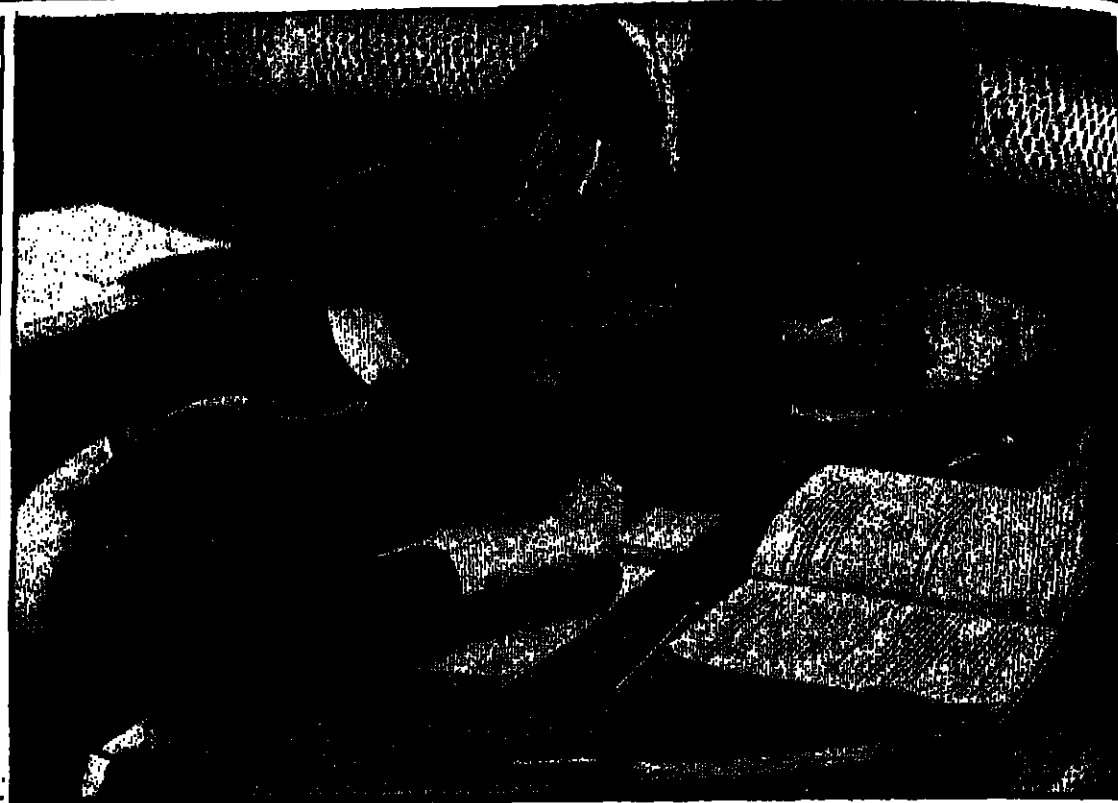
The role extends, of course, to fending off attacks on the brainchild like "This is boring" or "We always do questions about squares on chessboards". (Incidentally, I suspect if I danced naked on the stock cupboard I would be told, "You always dance naked on the stock cupboard.")

It was with the background of "The Great Debate" that in 1976, a working party of teachers in Croydon set out to look at "Maths for the Least-able School Leaver". (The title, I am aware, suggests that there was only one such person and was impossible to turn into an acronym; try pronouncing MLASL, or worse, WPMASL.)

I am also aware that the findings of the working party were not new in 1976, let alone now, but regular reminders do no harm.

Six years later, of course, the report of the Cockcroft Committee recommended, *inter alia*, that as well as teacher exposition and practice of routine skills, all maths courses should also contain provision for problem solving, practical work and investigative work. ALL maths courses, note. As soon as you try something interesting for the less-able, born perhaps of the need to write a non-exam syllabus for non-exam kids, you find it is equally interesting, stimulating and exciting for the sort-of-able and jolly-able.

Doubtless I am teaching you pedagogical grandmothers to suck eggs, but



any child who leaves school thinking that every question has an answer has missed the point, often because he or she has too rarely been allowed to work at open-ended problems.

The teacher has three equally open-ended problems:

First, how to find the ideas. There are books or pamphlets, such as *Starting Points*, *These Have Worked for Us* or the *Leapfrog* booklets, but the best ideas come from the teacher or the class itself. A friend of mine keeps a list of rhymes (Metro/hetero, onema/denim a) and then writes songs round them. There is nothing wrong with that approach: keep a notebook of ideas and you never know when they might come in handy. (It helps if you have mathematical minds: who among us has not seen a pair of pram wheels and thought of a Venn diagram or checked a bus ticket number for primeness?)

It is a good idea to listen out for classroom conversation: "We have the same birthday - that's unusual", "I wonder how many people could get into the room", "How many bits of grass are there on the football pitch?"

Second, by their very nature, different ideas respond differently to the same starter. Every teacher has found an idea that works well one year, but fails flat on its face with a nominal-

ly equivalent class the next, so it is impossible to write a detailed teaching programme that can be the same year after year. Yet such programmes are demanded and possibly imposed.

Third, most youngsters listen to their elders, if not better, and often receive the message that they need to learn the basics to get a job. To start to change the mathematical habits of a lifetime of a 14-year-old, or even an 11-year-old, brought up on a diet of little but arithmetic and with such slogans ringing in the ears, will inevitably be an uphill struggle; we must start young. I am not denying the need for practice of these skills, I am suggesting that it should be allowed only its fair share.

As anyone who has ever been involved in in-service training knows, it is at least tactful to include an actual lesson-planning hint or two, however theoretical the content of the rest of the course, so if you are thinking of "doing volume" on Monday, I offer the following absolutely unoriginal ideas to go with the chessboard on Page One of your Ideas Notebook or "Syllabus", as you will refer to it.

Why are bottles or cans circular? Why are cartons usually not cubes? How many building bricks will fit

into a given loop of string or elastic band? Buy a wine box out of capitalism, empty it and see how much the inside will hold when taken out of the cardboard box.

The moral of the story, if there is one, is that by experimenting with maths for the least-able, because they are often the least cooperative too, we are all forced to be more interesting. Everyone involved in the Croydon research found, if they did not know already, that what is suitable for the least-able is suitable for everyone; it is your arithmetic text book in practical experiments.

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Martin Wallis is head of mathematics, John Newnham High School, Croydon.

How long is a minute?

by Derek McConnell

"It's not long enough," protested Michael struggling to thread beads onto a lace hung from the timer ran through. "I'm puffed out," said a breathless Stacey after counting how many jumps she could make in a minute. Kevin, on the other hand, was incredulous. "I didn't think it took all them wheels to turn just two hands round," he said as he watched the pieces being dismantled from an alarm clock.

These are just a few remarks overheard this term at Stanton School, Suffolk, which show the children's real feel for time. Stanton is a group 4 rural school, with 140 five to nine-year-olds grouped in six classes, sharing five full-time and three part-time staff. It had been the local primary comment at the autumn governors' meeting that had sown the seed. The staff representative was asked by him to report back on maths at the next meeting, and wondered where to begin. Obviously a concise account of the whole field would be virtually impossible and so it was decided to concentrate on one concept and show its development through the school. From this request grew a project on time, which ultimately involved the whole community: parents, teachers, governors, advisers, local people and, most importantly, the children themselves.

Why was time chosen? Certainly it is the most abstract and difficult concept for young children to grasp. However, time

would readily accommodate our across-the-curriculum approach. Our aim was that the children be helped to acquire a "feeling for time" in its broadest sense. This is so necessary before any reference to clocks, calendars or the formal measurement of time has any meaning.

An early decision to involve parents was made. This resulted from enquiries from several as to how they could best help with maths. It was decided to talk to parents and half an hour was set aside for them and the governors. Previous such meetings had, however, been poorly attended and in an attempt to overcome this, a conscious decision to involve children showing their activities was taken.

Initially, a brief timetable was drawn up outlining the dates and times of the meetings. During the Christmas holidays the maths coordinator organized resources: ordered library books, timetables, lists of stories and equipment. Several members of staff had decided to make time their topic and prepared flow charts for use in their classes. The school's stages of time work were reviewed and notes prepared under the headings of topic, experiences, language, materials and references. Discussion at the first staff meeting in January centred upon these and everyone made further plans during the next week.

Over the subsequent weeks ideas flowed thick and fast. The infant classes concentrated on day/night and the weather. Their entrance hall

was filled with a huge summer and winter frieze and clouds and raindrops hung from ceilings. A magnificent Jack Frost picture was made, and drinking straws and pulses and dried silver, evoking a feeling of cold. Classrooms were full of day and night friezes and stories written by the children. They compared slow and fast-moving animals and vehicles, made charts of weather, days of the week, birthdays and ages. Songs and rhymes were learned and pictures and stories sequenced, with some children using the computer for this. Simple timing devices such as clockwork toys and spinners were used, and groups of children worked with the machinery investigating what could be done in a specified time and recording this pictorially.

Increasing awareness of the language of time was apparent throughout the school. Charts comparing weekday and weekend bedtimes provided one class with its starting point. Another group investigated how long it took to make a sandwich, and a note of music could be made on various instruments and set as an incubator to hatch eggs. These ideas were then used to make a history of children's timekeeping. The children took clocks apart, and made patterns of toys. A superb drama depicting evolution in the shape of *Carnival of the Animals* by Saint-Saëns was explained by the teacher and all church calendars were made.

How long is a minute?

continued

Another class visiting Thetford Museum saw a Georgian clock and speculation about whether there could be ghosts inside led to a wealth of creative writing and work with pendulums and tick-timers.

Blue class used the local village, visiting one of the oldest houses, seeing an old clocking-in clock and marvelling at the slope of the bedroom floor. They hunted for signs of time, noting opening and closing times of shops, but timetables and dates on buildings. Stationed outside the shops in small groups with helpful mums, children made tallies of the number of customers going in within half an hour. The investigation led to block graphs and dot plots which were busiest, describing the letter, writing, collage and painting of shop fronts and the charting of prices and items sold. So mathematical were they that the children were repeated with useful estimation beforehand and comparisons afterwards.

Throughout the project staff discussed and continued and new ideas were generated. The whole school worked together on a calendar frieze for the year and the four older classes made a collage picture called "Time Past, Present and Future" with sections on "Early Man", "Ancient Greece" and "Future Space Mine". Work was shared constantly by the children, communal thinking ideas at assemblies which included a delightful variety of songs across the curriculum.

It was the desire to re-capture these ideas that led quite naturally to the form of presentation to parents. Work was on display in every class-

room and mathematical work on time had been collected, ordered into stages, and displayed around the spare classroom. The hall was crowded, and after a brief outline of time stages by the maths coordinator the children entertained the youngsters on a show day and night work, a drama "Where did the Sun go at Night?" and timing activities. Children in Green class made a chart of their arrival times at school, ending with Nicola rushing in five past nine saying "Mr McConnell I'm sorry, I'm late again." As this happens every day it brought the house down. For a finale all the children joined in to sing "Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday."

The presentation to the parents illustrated the children's greater general awareness of time. The whole school had developed a unified spirit through sharing the project and this extended into the community. By involving parents they were made aware of our aims and the purpose of our activities. The partnership between children, parents, school staff and governors and the i.e.a. had been strengthened.

So, ultimately, we come back to our starting point of the governors' meeting. Here, a fuller account of the school's approach to maths was given. Our aim of making children see maths as interesting, enjoyable and relevant to them was stressed. The project showed that maths schemes are only one aspect of work undertaken and should fit in with and not dictate the school's approach. It is indeed a sobering thought that were we to pursue such concept in maths in the same depth it would be five years before we would return to time.

Derek McConnell is headmaster at Stanton School, Suffolk. He is currently working on a project on time, which will be published in the next issue of the journal.

The final subject is the newly-devised computers in mathematics education, replacing a previously optional and more general subject. Most secondary schools now have several microcomputers available but their potential has yet to be realized. Adequate software needs to be developed and carefully evaluated to ensure its educational value. At a more fundamental level, if one believes Piaget, the computer will significantly change the nature of learning. Certainly early indications are that a micro-computer in the (mathematics) classroom can, simply by its presence with suitable software, change the type of interaction between the teacher and

Full power to the Poly

A significant move towards self-validation.
Ramesh Kapadia outlines the course

In line with its policy of partnership in validation, the Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA) granted the MSc in Mathematical Education at the Polytechnic of the South Bank unlimited approval in 1980. At the first progress review visit which was completed recently the CNAA went further and agreed to delegate full power to the polytechnic to amend the course, subject to general guidelines. This is believed to be the first course to be approved along such lines, certainly at the postgraduate level by the Mathematics, Statistics and Operational Research Board. It represents a significant move towards self-validation, as is done in universities.

The course, run by the Department of Mathematical Sciences and Computing since 1977, is aimed at mathematics teachers in secondary schools and colleges. It is run over two years on a part-time basis (an afternoon plus two evenings each week). This ensures that firm contact is maintained with the classroom. At present there are 30 teachers studying on the course, forming a cohesive, interactive group. The teachers particularly welcome the opportunity to explore issues and study ideas in depth with colleagues. It is also possible to discuss day-to-day matters in a more relaxed and sympathetic atmosphere.

The newly-approved course consists of five major components, devised before the Cockcroft report, yet embodying many of the principles set out there. Each of the components integrates mathematical ideas with education, concrete examples illustrate the theoretical background.

In the subject Mathematics: Nature, Philosophy and History, significant themes are studied to provide teachers with a broad perspective and overview of the nature of invariance and its role in the changing perceptions of geometry; the main philosophies of mathematics from doubts about Platonism via the downfall of formalism to the uneasy status of intuitionism or fallibility.

These ideas may seem far removed from the bottom fourth year set, yet Lakatos writes about "conjectures and relations", which is closely linked to problem-solving and investigations! Work. Certainly, teachers have

appreciated the deeper insight into mathematics given by this subject. The historical approach provides teachers with material to enliven their own classroom presentation.

Problem-solving is the subject which has changed teachers' perception of their role in the classroom by focusing directly on children's learning. The assessment requires teachers to teach a topic in a problem-solving way, keeping a diary and analysing children's development. Some highly original work has been done in this area, exemplifying the ideas expounded in the Cockcroft report (paragraph 243); it is hoped to publish a book soon.

Closely integrated with problem-solving is the subject curriculum and pedagogy. There has been much change in mathematics syllabuses over the past 20 years, including a backlash which led to the Government inquiry (which largely dispelled the fears expressed by traditionalists). Major aspects of school mathematics are considered: the role of language, inter-disciplinarity, assessment, teaching approaches, current school texts. Again the assessment focuses on the classroom, requiring teachers to critically evaluate their own teaching.

Mathematical modelling is a modern approach to applied mathematics, embodying pioneering work done at the Polytechnic of the South Bank. The emphasis is on the formulation and solution of real-life problems, with careful attention paid to underlying assumptions. Teachers have developed a variety of original models, suitable for classroom use; a number of these will be published in the summer.

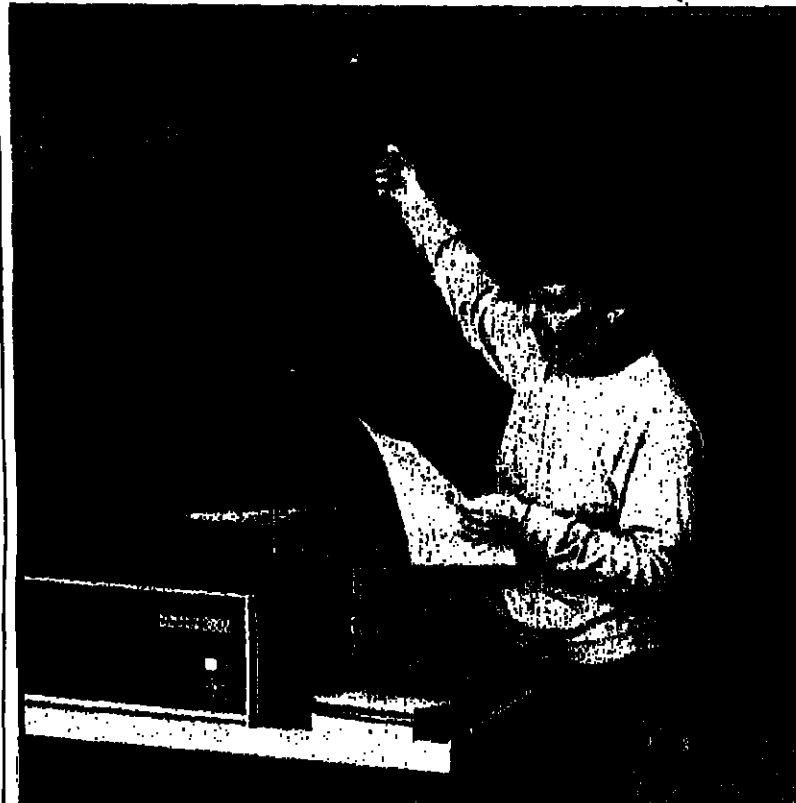
The final subject is the newly-devised computers in mathematics education, replacing a previously optional and more general subject. Most secondary schools now have several microcomputers available but their potential has yet to be realized. Adequate software needs to be developed and carefully evaluated to ensure its educational value. At a more fundamental level, if one believes Piaget, the computer will significantly change the nature of learning. Certainly early indications are that a micro-computer in the (mathematics) classroom can, simply by its presence with suitable software, change the type of interaction between the teacher and

higher class. At another level, the programming language, LOGO may affect the geometry children are taught.

The major piece of assessment for the course, completed after examinations and coursework, is a dissertation which enables a teacher to undertake a sustained piece of research, often related to the classroom. Some of these dissertations have been published either as research reports or as materials for classroom use.

Last year one teacher set up a Youth Training Scheme scheme and endeavoured to teach trainees PROLOG as a first programming language. The rich data structures which the language allows provided a good opportunity for a variety of applications. Two students input data from a car manual to enable their program to answer queries about the possible fault given a certain symptom: a bonus was that, unlike the car manual, it was possible to consider two or more systems, like the electrical and engine systems, simultaneously. Another student developed a program to answer queries relating to choosing a ski resort at a travel agent. For their common project the students have embarked on developing a program to match suitable boys and girls. Current dissertations include: infinitesimals as a possible approach to sixth form calculus; a subjective approach to probability; the role of mathematics in geography.

There is a lively research group in mathematical education at the Polytechnic. A BF research project on the role of microcomputers in teaching mathematics has just been completed; the results obtained have shown that



students develop a deeper understanding of the fundamental ideas like the relationship between differentials and integrals and they perceive for themselves why areas under a graph are assumed to be negative. A current project is investigating the role of APL in teaching mathematics. On the curriculum side there is research on the development of children's notions of chance and also on the role of modelling; this will be developed further by part-time secondment into schools. The course is lively and evolving its

own distinctive focus in the area of mathematical education. Regular seminars are held when eminent researchers are invited to present their findings. Since it started, over 30 teachers have been awarded an MSc, two with distinction. It is the only such course in the public sector and, as such, is playing its role in improving mathematical education in the London area.

Ramesh Kapadia is senior lecturer in mathematical education at the Polytechnic of the South Bank.

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Problem solving – doing what comes naturally

by David Kent

Our view of teaching affects whether or not we believe problem solving skills can be taught. In the model where teachers are seen as purveyors of knowledge then problem solving hardly fits. My own mathematics education, both at school and beyond, was governed by a system reasonably summed up as: here is a problem; here is how to do it; here are some more like it.

This sort of process is a long way removed from what Seymour Papert described as the Natural Way (TES November 4). Papert and others, argue that the Natural Way is the way babies learn to speak their mother tongue. This they acquire by being in a cultural setting, surrounded by other children, prompted by adults and sharing experiences within a process far more complex than one of having instruction and following a syllabus. If we accept that teaching means creating a setting and environment where children can learn, then problem solving skills can be taught. But we must be aware that such skills will be acquired in a way that is perhaps more akin to how we learned to speak than how we gained our qualifications.

To mathematicians, problem solving has two related meanings. On the one hand, it is about the application of mathematics; on the other, it is about the heuristic approach that Polya wrote about in *How to Solve It* and elsewhere. It is on this latter idea that I shall concentrate, although the thinking skills developed are transferable to the other situation.

In this heuristic, Polya mentioned many elements. I shall concentrate here on two, which are crucial because they can help children to get involved and involvement is so vitally important. These two elements are: *Have you seen it before?* *Imagine a more accessible, related problem.*

As a profession we need to find problems whose solutions are accessible to various ranges of children. A few are offered here, focusing attention on the above two elements. SWAP. Have you seen it before? Swap is a game. Written on 9 cards are the words

SWAP, AN, NIP, SO, SWAP, IS, TOP, AT, WIT

It is played between two players, X and Y.

X selects a card then Y selects one then X selects a second card then Y selects a third card.

If all three of X's cards share a common letter then X wins, otherwise X returns a card and Y selects a third card.

We continue until one player wins by having three cards with a common letter.

Naturally there is an aspect of

enjoyment intrinsic in the game. But thinking skills are about developing an organized, strategic approach to it. (Before continuing, it is now perhaps best to play).

Initially, many children fall into the trap of failing to reflect on the cards selected by their opponent. The game can take on an additional degree of difficulty if opponents are not allowed to see each others cards. However difficult we make the game, the strategy of making sure that if you cannot win then you do not lose, must remain paramount. Working with 8 to 9-year-olds, it was possible only to reflect on the learning of this strategy taking place through comments like: "If you don't take that one she can beat you next time."

Similar reflection came observing Linda, in the same lesson, shuffling the cards around on her table. Starting with them laid at random, she set them in a row and then a square. Still she shuffled them, keeping the square array. Suddenly whether by judgment, luck or whatever, she hit on the array

WON AN NIP
SO SWAP IS
TOP AT WIT

and cried out ecstatically "It is like noughts and crosses", stressing the question: "Have I seen a problem such as this before?"

When Linda commented: "The game reminded me of noughts and crosses" and followed with: "So I put them in a square", she was only reminding us of how natural Polya's suggestion is. Flip-over: Imagine a more accessible, related problem.

There are a number of well known, investigative type problems which can highlight a common methodology defined as "making the problem more accessible".

One of these is finding the number of squares on an n by n lattice.

$\times \times \times \times \times$

$\times \times$

$\times \times$

$\times \times$

$\times \times$

$\times \times$

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What should be the natural thing to do is to make the problem more accessible by looking at a sequence of 2 by 2, 3 by 3, ..., lattices; u13:

$\times \times \times \times$ $\times \times \times \times$ $\times \times \times \times$

If we wish, we can make the problem even more accessible by ignoring squares on a lattice and looking at the number of line segments on a row of dots

$\times \times \times \times$

Making a problem more accessible is again a natural thing to do, but even so it is one that needs to be stressed and rehearsed for its naturalness to shine through. It is a very gratifying to see it work, as it did in another card game. In *Flip-over*, 9 cards are marked as $\times$ on one side and $\times$ on the other. They are laid face down as:

$\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$

Either a whole row or a whole column can be flipped over. So if column 1 is flipped over we have

$\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$

Can we, using a combination of these row and column flip-overs obtain the arrangement

$\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$ $\times$

If you think we can, do so. If you think we cannot, prove it. (Again, before continuing, try the problem).

The solution is that it *cannot* be done. One proof of this is a very analytical and rooted in the solution of a set of linear equations in arithmetic progression.

If a card starts as $\times$ and finishes as $\times$ then it has been flipped an even number of times, or 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 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The concept of mastery

Robert McBride describes the SSCC Scheme of assessment

SSCC is a DES-funded study looking at the feasibility of setting up graduated assessment in maths for the lowest attaining 40 per cent of pupils in secondary schools.

I have just returned from a school in Suffolk where more than 50 pupils have received Stage One certificates presented by Howard King of COSSEC and Peter Reynolds, county maths adviser for Suffolk. Here were the lower achievers proudly queuing up to receive recognition while the rest of the fourth year applauded. There was no hint of cynicism by either pupils receiving the certificates or their peers though it must have been clear to all that this was not an O level or a CSE. Whether this attitude persists remains to be seen, but so far so good.

Assessment is something of a dirty word. Most examinations require written response, cover broad syllabuses, accept low pass marks and have their roots in courses designed for high attaining pupils. They encourage rote memorization by children and drill and practice as teaching methods. Indeed, the previous sentence mirrors the staple diet of maths classrooms and it seems that this is so because of the prevailing influence of assessment.

The assessment being used by SSCC is breaking this mould. It attempts to stimulate good teaching as described by the Cockcroft Report. The Cockcroft Foundation List provides a list of topics which should form the greater part of courses for low achievers. It is not a long list when compared with many CSE syllabuses but the idea is that pupils should understand rather than have a poor grasp of a wider syllabus. Some existing CSE examinations can be passed with only 30 per cent of the marks. SSCC working with the Foundation List is assessing pupils on what they know rather than on what they do not know. It is striving for mastery with pass marks of 70 per cent.

The concept of mastery knocks against the existing system of norm-referenced examinations which produces a rank order of pupils judged against an imaginary norm. The top 60 per cent or so of this rank order are allowed to pass public examinations while the bottom 40 per cent cannot, no matter what they know.

Criteria-referenced assessment can be compared to the MOT test for cars. They pass if they reach the standard and conceivably 100 per cent could pass. SSCC is using criteria-referenced assessment so that pupils can pass other candidates.

Paragraph 243 of Cockcroft recommended that maths teaching at all levels should include opportunities for "discussion... practical work... problem solving... investigational work" and each of these elements will be found in the SSCC scheme. There will be an oral test in the fifth year

while project work with problem solving and practical assessment are already taking place.

Practical tasks fall into two groups—single skill tests where pupils have to say, measure distances in suitable units and rulers; and composite items where a single skill is used in context and a result is used to apply a different skill.

It is intended that some pupils may be tested in a classroom while others are working normally. The single skill items have not caused many problems. The composite tests have proved more difficult in that teachers feel the need to talk to pupils, one to one, in order to mark their answers adequately. Problems soon arise if classes are large or if there are a number of disruptive pupils. Some maths departments have special needs teachers in lessons in-



stead of having pupils withdrawn to separate areas. This arrangement usually provides the flexibility composite testing demands, though some departments manage well without this provision.

SSCC is heavily indebted to the School Maths Project. SMP has been developing and testing its new 11-16 scheme since 1977.

The G-Course is the part of the scheme for low attainers in the third, fourth and fifth secondary years and is linked to graduated assessment. The assessment comprises written tests (re-caps), mental tests, project work, practical and oral tests. Success in the recaps and mental tests allows pupils to rise through three stages of achievement for which intermediate certificates are awarded. A final certificate summarises which stage pupils have passed and details the project, practical and oral work they have done.

About 40 schools have been testing the SMP material and assessment and SSCC workers visit them all. The aim, however, is not to improve and then recommend a single system of assessment. The SSCC brief is to see whether it is feasible for an i.e.s. or examination board to introduce graduated assessment and if it is, how it could be done, what level of supporting INSET would be needed and what features the tests would have.

The SMP schools are called Pilot

Schools. Trial schools are not using the SMP teaching materials but are two groups introducing graduated assessment as might be done in future. There are 10 schools in Suffolk and five in Rotherham each with different levels of enthusiasm, resources, staffing and facilities.

Present fourth-year pupils in the pilot schools will be the first to complete the course, trial schools are working a year behind. This is a "practice" year for the trial schools who have used recaps, some ideas for teaching practical skill and have received a course outline of the SMP course. This last item raises the issue of the relationship between assessment and teaching.

The problem is to construct a system of assessment which encourages good teaching practice yet still allows



teachers to express their individuality, their ideas and to include work that is relevant to their pupils. At the outset it seems that trial schools are going to alter their courses to cater for the existing SMP assessment.

In itself this calls for a good deal of adjustment by teachers at a time when morale is low and resources are tight. It is anticipated that in future years schools will write their own assessment possibly using "model" tests. Questions could be made more relevant for pupils with say, a question on local train time-tables or a practical task which reflects a feature of regional life.

Mathematics for low attainers is amongst the most barren of educational areas. Some claim that it is best improved by direct in-service training of teachers. It is clear that this has a role to play. It is equally clear that assessment will remain a component of our education system and a formative factor in the classroom. It is essential therefore that it reflects and encourages good teaching practice and motivates pupils. The danger is that poor assessment will prevent Cockcroft-inspired curriculum development being sustained.

Footnote 1: The SSCC study has four partners—SMP, Suffolk County Council; The Cambridge, Oxford and Southern Schools Examination Council; Chelsea College, London.

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Tables and Squares

by David Weddell

Doesn't it seem silly to call circle areas squares? It's square millimetres, squares centimetres, square metres.

When there isn't a square in sight. If you ask "Why?" everybody says: "It's the formula, pie are squared". Next time you get this answer, be brave and repeat "Why?"

You will almost certainly get the reply: "Because that is how it's done". To which you say: "Show me".

Not many of your bright mathematicians can do just that, simply because they were told at school to use the formula. "Pie are squared" is the easy explanation, but it doesn't really explain anything.

A square is made up of straight lines. A circle is curved. See what I mean? Squares do not fit curves.

How many times did you begin a session of maths with enthusiasm, only to be lost halfway through the lesson? The more confused you got, the faster the teacher seemed to get. At the end of the lesson you just looked at your book in blank frustration, helpless in your ignorance, perhaps angry.

It really was a matter of language. Mathematics has a language of its own just like medicine, law, physics or foreign languages. You are out on your own, unless you use your own language.

To get the area of a square, all you do is pick a smaller square and see how many times it fits into the big one. Anybody can cut a piece of paper one centimetre square, then see how many times it fits into a big piece of paper. The number of times it does so is the area of the big paper in square centimetres.

Then how do you measure the area of the circle? Squares won't fit along the curve.

Now you know the whole truth. Nobody has ever managed to do the impossible—exactly measure a circle with squares.

For at least 4,000 years we have all been guessing, trying to get as near as possible to an answer. Even a square one millionth of a millimetre will not fit the curve exactly.

But the nearest answer is easy to get. To prove to yourself how easy it really is, take a piece of paper, a 10p piece, ruler and a pencil.

Put the 10p piece on the paper, on the left, and draw a line around the rim. Move the 10p piece to the right, clear of the circle. Mark a dot on the edge of the circle at nine o'clock, another at three o'clock.

Now draw a new circle around the coin, this time making only a faint line because this second circle is to be used only as a guide to make the square.

Remove the coin. Using the ruler or straight edge, draw a line across the top of the circle, just touching the edge at 12 o'clock. Draw another line across the bottom of the circle, just touching the edge at six o'clock. Then draw in the upright lines, one touching the

edge at three o'clock and the other at nine o'clock. Draw over the four sides of the square to give it a firm outline.

Finish off the two drawings with a line across the centre of each, from the middle, between nine o'clock and three o'clock.

In front of you are two drawings, one a square, the other a circle, each with a line across the middle. What is different about them? The shape. What is the same about them? The line across the middle.

Because the line across the middle is the same length in each, you can now use that middle line to measure both.

With only two simple drawings like these, it is quite easy to reason out the result you want.

The space inside is the problem. If the middle line is the same in each, the answer must depend on the outside line. The outside line of the square is longer than that of the circle.

In the square, the middle line fits four times into the outside line. Measure the outside line of the circle with the middle line and you find that it fits three and one-seventh times.

So, for every four small squares that fit into the square, only three and one-seventh fit into the circle.

This applies to all circles whatever the size. All you really do is make a square of the middle line then take a little bit away from that square.

Of course there is an easy way to do this. Look at the numbers again: 4, 3 1/7. Change them into sevenths. Four becomes 28, 3 1/7 becomes 21. 28 sevenths in the circle and 21 sevenths in the square, the circle is 28/21 the size of the square.

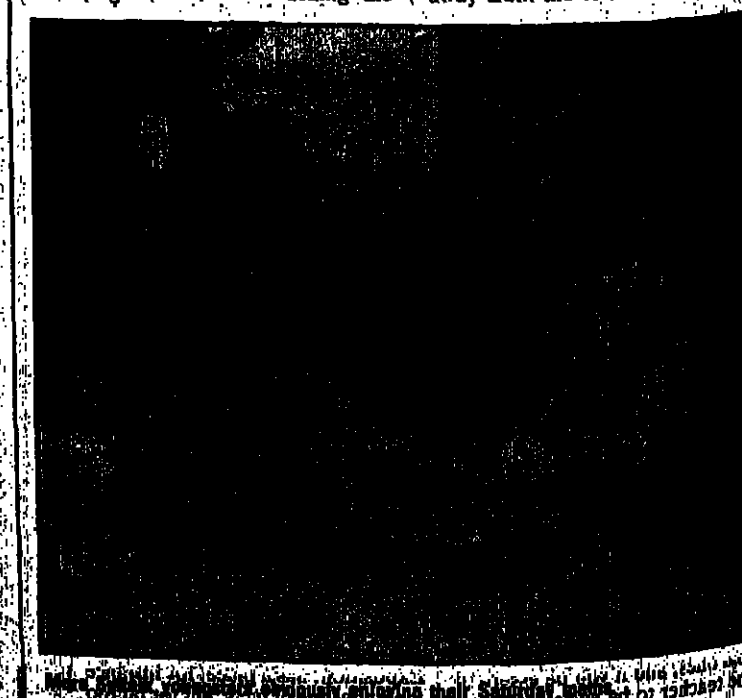
Take a circle where the middle line is 10cm long. Its square is 10 x 10, which is 100 square centimetres, so the area of the circle is 28/21 the size of 100, which works out at 78.5 square centimetres. Easiest of all, with 100 in the square and 78.5 in the circle, this means that the circle area is 78.5 per cent of the square area.

It is only a matter of a few seconds with a calculator to square the middle line and take away 21.5 per cent of the result, then you have the area for any and every circle that was ever thought of.

Now you can make your own little tables of areas for as many circles as you like. No need to try to prove the result. Logically it is impossible to do so. After all, you can't fit a square exactly into a round hole. Even the Ancient Greeks knew that.

Calculator steps: 1. Enter length of line. 2. Press x. 3. Enter length of line. 4. Press =. 5. Enter 21.5. 6. Press %. 7. Press =.

ANSWER. Remember include only the first figure after the decimal point. To find the area of a circle, square the middle line and take 21.5 per cent away from the total.



Teaching styles—a response to Cockcroft 243

George Knights reports on a group study by members of the Association of Teachers of Mathematics

Of all the content of the Cockcroft report *Mathematics Counts*, one of the best known sections has become paragraph 243. This states that "Mathematics teaching at all levels should include opportunities for:

- exposition by the teacher
- discussion between the teacher and pupils and between pupils themselves
- appropriate practical work
- consolidation and practice of fundamental skills and routines
- problem solving including the application of mathematics to everyday situations
- investigational work."

There is a danger, however, that as a consequence of this familiarity the significance of the paragraph may be lost, as teachers seek reassurance by deciding that each style of teaching should actually take place at some time in their classroom.

Concerned that this may be the case, a group of members of the Association of Teachers of Mathematics decided to consider the paragraph in detail, and to attempt to make it more accessible to teachers as a means of understanding better the nature of activity in their mathematics classrooms.

The outcome of this consideration was a fascinating journey of exploration for each member of the group, which has been described in detail elsewhere. It is only possible here to give a broad outline of the issues raised in the hope that others will be tempted to make a similar journey.

It quickly emerged that to understand the full implications of paragraph 243 was necessary first to look at specific teaching topics from the point of view of those elements identified in paragraph 241 of the report, namely facts, skills, conceptual structures, general strategies and appreciation.

In order to ascertain how best to teach aspects of a topic

This immediately raised further questions: What is a fact, or skill, or conceptual structure, or strategy? Does answering such a question depend upon the stage a child has reached in the learning process? What conceptual structures are required by the learner before they can effectively learn a specific fact or develop competence in the use of specific skills?

Attempting to answer these questions for specific topics (the group worked on percentages and on an introduction to differentiation) led the group to consider the possible differences between "learned facts" and "memory facts", and between skills and routines (these identified as collected items of skills), before tackling conceptual structures. Cockcroft suggests that the latter "are richly inter-connected bodies of knowledge, including the methods required for the exercise of skills".

The building of these "richly inter-connected bodies of knowledge" seemed to offer the key, for the group felt that too often teaching tends to concentrate on the development of skills, leaving pupils to make their own connections.

It did its study of this issue the group developed a model of "blobs" which was used to stand for a body of knowledge, this being a collection of sub-routines, and which could be linked to other blobs. Blobs or it will disappear. Blobs or it will disappear. Blobs or it will disappear. Blobs or it will disappear.

What has been described may suggest that little attention was actually given to our understanding of the styles of teaching, but this would be far from the truth. In fact it was essential to the process described above for the group to have a joint working understanding of the nature of the styles and their applications.

The nature of the group's understanding is fully documented (2), but in outline the thoughts about each ran along these lines:

Exposition: has a place, for instance in summarizing of facts, but for the

fact that each person's conceptual structures are different, and that conceptual structures are dynamic and not static.

The dynamic nature of conceptual structures led the group to consider identifying mental activity with each of the essential features of paragraph 241. It became helpful to place verbs alongside the nouns, together with a scale to measure change, so that the following emerged:

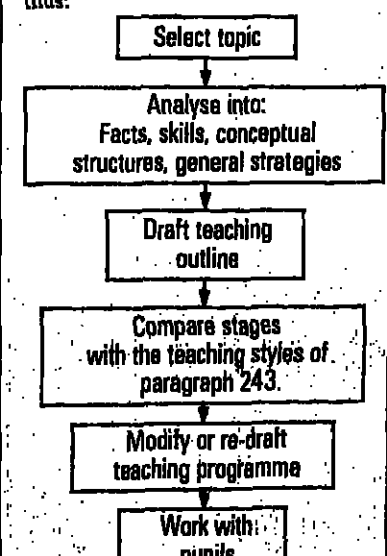
- Fact - knowing - from sketchy to complete
- Skill - developing - from inept to proficient
- Conceptual structure - understanding - from confused to clear
- Process - developing - from rough to polished.

The group considered general strategies to be about choosing the relevant facts, skills and conceptual structures needed to perform a particular task, coupled with the need to order them. In addition, generalization, explanation, proof, classification, representation and interpretation formed part of the overall notion of ways of developing and applying strategies.

Cockcroft identified from research that attitudes to mathematics generally were poor, and many adults interviewed had seen mathematics as a set of "proper" methods, as something to do by rote. If they had forgotten something they had learned at school, that was it. They lacked the confidence to try to solve the problem somehow, believing it was not possible for them to solve it. As a result they were not even prepared to have a go.

This, the group felt, seems to be saying that their mathematics is a set of blobs with very few links, with no stable structure as a result. Once links become weak they lack the strategies to rebuild them. One possible way forward would be to give much greater attention to problem-solving strategies in the mathematics classroom.

So far, a souped-up study of paragraph 243 had in fact become a lengthy analysis of the implications of paragraph 241. However, the breaking down of a topic into the 241 elements provided scope for drafting a teaching outline which could then be compared with the teaching styles of paragraph 243. For the first time the group became aware of the different impacts that each of these styles could have. What emerged as a consequence of this analysis was a model for the preparation of material for children, thus:



Using this model, and the notion of blobs and links it quickly became apparent that the blobs became insignificant as attention was given to the links.

What has been described may suggest that little attention was actually given to our understanding of the styles of teaching, but this would be far from the truth. In fact it was essential to the process described above for the group to have a joint working understanding of the nature of the styles and their applications.

The nature of the group's understanding is fully documented (2), but in outline the thoughts about each ran along these lines:

long has been used when other styles would have been more efficient;

Discussion: far too little time seems to be devoted to this in mathematics classrooms. Verbalizing may actually help the learning process, providing opportunity for pupils to "own" their knowledge, and it will help the thinking process. The extent to which discussion is used depends upon the status that each teacher assigns to the activity.

Practical work: this proved most difficult. Essentially it was felt that practical work related to a situation whereby materials were always available and pupils felt free to use them together with the freedom to create the necessary environment for progressing;

Problem-solving and Investigations: these the group considered together, essentially because considerable comment has been made elsewhere about the difficulty of identifying the difference between them. It was found most helpful to consider problem solving as a convergent activity and investigation as a divergent activity, though it was freely acknowledged that elements of problem solving appeared in the process of investigation and vice versa.

To write a report of the work of the group in the traditional sense seemed inadequate as a means of conveying how much stemmed from the activities generated during the group's investigation.

Instead what has emerged is an "activity book for teachers", designed in such a way that it can be used by an individual or by a group of teachers working together. It not only sets out a wide range of activities which attempt to create situations similar to those of the group, but also suggests ways of looking again at classroom organization, at marking and assessment, and at what really happens in a classroom, in the light of other findings.

The suggestions of activities are supported by detailed comments which stem from the work of the group. It is offered to all teachers of mathematics and especially to heads of department and to those responsible for initial and in-service training, as a

contribution to the fundamental need identified by Cockcroft, for all teachers of mathematics to engage in the process of review and development of mathematics learning and teaching. References: (1) *Mathematics Counts* Report of the Committee of Inquiry into the teaching of Mathematics in Schools HMSO 1982.

(2) *Teaching Styles - a response to Cockcroft 243*. Association of Teachers of Mathematics, King's Chambers, Queen Street, Derby. 1984.



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J. R. G. TOMLINSON, M.A.
Director of Education

Required for September 1984.

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SIXTH FORM & TERTIARY COLLEGES

Scale 2 Posts and above

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

KING EDWARD VI
Lower High Street,
Stourbridge B95 1TD
(Group 13)

Required September 1984. Teacher of Latin, Scale 2 post for suitably qualified experienced candidate but newly qualified teachers for whom a Scale 1 post would be more appropriate are also invited to apply. Details from the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140020

Scale 1 Posts

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

KING EDWARD VI COLLEGE
Requires a Teacher of Maths. Please send curriculum vitae and references above. (19352) 140022

HAMPSHIRE

CRICKLEADE COLLEGE
CRICKLEADE II IN THEATRE
See under Further Education (19354) 140022

HARROW EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CRICKLEADE COLLEGE
Lower High Street, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 3AQ
French Graduate required to teach from September 1984 for a 30-40 hour part-time post. One year experience in teaching French to Advanced Level, preferably in a school or college, is essential. The successful candidate will be responsible for the French classes and will be expected to contribute to the development of the French Department. Salary £5,445 - £6,138. Apply directly with C.V. and references to the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

Somerset

YEOVIL COLLEGE, YEOVIL
(Tertiary College)

Head of School of Mathematics

Senior Lecturer Scale

£10,683 to £13,443

Applications are invited for the above post which becomes vacant in September 1984. The work of the School of Mathematics encompasses a wide range, from vocational preparation and VTS Numeracy to GCE 'A' and Oxbridge entrance examinations. It is anticipated that the successful candidate will be a graduate or equivalent in Mathematics and/or Computer Science, with successful teaching experience to 'A' level and will be professionally trained as a teacher. Application form and details (SAB) from the Director of Resources, Yeovil College, Ilchester Road, Yeovil. Closing date 22nd May 1984. (14438)

HEADSHIP

From September 1984 or as soon as possible thereafter

St John's Special School
Aston Gange
Kempston
Bedford MK42 8AB

Group 6(S)
Estimated number on roll September 1984 - 111 children aged 3-10 years.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the Headship of this Group 6(S) Special School for pupils with severe learning difficulties. Application form and further details are available from the Chief Education Officer, County Hall, Bedford, MK42 8AP. Closing Date: 16th May 1984. (14438)

Bedfordshire

KNOWSLEY

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF KNOWSLEY

KNOWSLEY CENTRAL TERTIARY COLLEGE

Senior Lecturer, Business and Office Studies - as under Further Education (140022)

NORTH YORKSHIRE

COUNTY COUNCIL

SCOTT'S COLLEGE

2012 St. Lane, Scarborough

Required for September 1984. A qualified and experienced teacher to teach FRENCH to 15-16 year olds. A level and LATIN to GCE 'O' level. A scale 3 available for a suitably experienced candidate. Successful candidate will be responsible for the French and Latin departments. Details from the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

Apply directly to the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

OXFORD

PRIVATE SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

17/17 George Street, Oxford

Required for September 1984. A qualified and experienced teacher to teach FRENCH to 15-16 year olds. A level and LATIN to GCE 'O' level. A scale 3 available for a suitably experienced candidate. Successful candidate will be responsible for the French and Latin departments. Details from the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

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SHROPSHIRE

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

NEW COLLEGE

Kings Street, Walsall, Staffs

Computer Studies

To teach the subject from September within the framework of the new syllabus. A level and GCE 'A' level. A scale 3 available for a suitably experienced candidate. Successful candidate will be responsible for the Computer Studies department. Details from the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

Apply directly with C.V. and references to the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

SHROPSHIRE

SHROPSHIRE SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Walsall, Staffs

Required for September 1984. A qualified and experienced teacher to teach FRENCH to 15-16 year olds. A level and LATIN to GCE 'O' level. A scale 3 available for a suitably experienced candidate. Successful candidate will be responsible for the French and Latin departments. Details from the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

WARWICKSHIRE

KING EDWARD VI COLLEGE

Kings Street, Walsall, Staffs

Required for September 1984. A qualified and experienced teacher to teach FRENCH to 15-16 year olds. A level and LATIN to GCE 'O' level. A scale 3 available for a suitably experienced candidate. Successful candidate will be responsible for the French and Latin departments. Details from the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

Apply directly to the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

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WIGAN

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WIGAN

WINTERTON COLLEGE

Winterton Road, Orrell, Wigan, Lancs

Required for September 1984. A qualified and experienced teacher to teach FRENCH to 15-16 year olds. A level and LATIN to GCE 'O' level. A scale 3 available for a suitably experienced candidate. Successful candidate will be responsible for the French and Latin departments. Details from the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

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Special Education

Headships

ALINGTON MANOR SCHOOL

Alington, Northampton

Required for September 1984. A qualified and experienced teacher to teach FRENCH to 15-16 year olds. A level and LATIN to GCE 'O' level. A scale 3 available for a suitably experienced candidate. Successful candidate will be responsible for the French and Latin departments. Details from the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

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HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ST ALBANS DIVISION

Walling View School (ESN(S))

Walling View, St Albans

Head Teacher, Group 5(S)

(Readvertisement)

Required for January 1985, an experienced and well-qualified teacher as Headteacher of Walling View School, St Albans. Applicants must hold an Advanced Diploma in Special Education.

Walling View School is a mixed day school for ESN(S) pupils aged 3-18 years. The school is housed in modern premises in a pleasant area to the south of this historic city centre of St Albans. Excellent facilities.

Further particulars and application form are available from the Divisional Education Officer, County Council Offices, Civic Centre, St Albans AL1 3JZ. Closing date 1st June 1984. (Previous applicants may be reconsidered, if they so wish.) (14438)

JOSEPH CLARKE SCHOOL - Vincent Road, London E4 7RT

Required for January or as soon as possible.

Head Teacher Group 6(S)

£13,170-£14,375 + Outer London Allowance, required for this all age school catering for blind and partially sighted pupils.

Application Form and further details available on receipt of 'see from: Chief Education Officer, Municipal Offices, High Road, Leyton, London E15 6QJ.

Closing date: 28th May 1984. Ref. No. 58/685 (14438)

Waltham Forest

WALTHAM FOREST

WALTHAM FOREST

WALTHAM FOREST

WALTHAM FOREST

WALTHAM FOREST

WALTHAM FOREST

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WALTHAM FOREST

WALTHAM FOREST

KENT

COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

DEPARTMENT OF HEAD

TEACHERS

HARDWICK DAY SPECIAL

Hardwick, Kent

Required for September 1984. A qualified and experienced teacher to teach FRENCH to 15-16 year olds. A level and LATIN to GCE 'O' level. A scale 3 available for a suitably experienced candidate. Successful candidate will be responsible for the French and Latin departments. Details from the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

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DEPUTY HEADSHIPS

Second Masters/

Misses

WEST SUSSEX

ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL

St. Anthony's, Brighton

Required for September 1984. A qualified and experienced teacher to teach FRENCH to 15-16 year olds. A level and LATIN to GCE 'O' level. A scale 3 available for a suitably experienced candidate. Successful candidate will be responsible for the French and Latin departments. Details from the Principal, Mr. J. H. Jones, on application with curriculum vitae and naming two referees should be sent, as soon as possible. (19352) 140022

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BERKSHIRE

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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REED'S SCHOOL
Cobham, Surrey
ART AND CRAFT
TEACHER

Required from September, 1984 an Assistant Teacher to work in the Art and Craft Department.

It is hoped that this new appointment will strengthen the existing ties between the Art and Craft areas and would be ideally suited to a newly qualified

Avon
COUNTY COUNCIL

100

 Letters of application and curriculum vitae should be sent, with the names of two professional referees, by Friday 18th May, 1984, to: The Rector, Morrison's Academy, Crief PH7 3AN, from whom further details are available.

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26

...and the fact that the *Journal* is a journal of the American Psychological Association, the largest and most influential organization in the field of psychology, adds to the journal's prestige and makes it a must-read for all psychologists.

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8.5

The Governors of this College invite applications for the following posts:-

Lecturer in the Department of Primary Education
3 VACANCIES

Members of this department are involved in a wide range of preservice and inservice courses in the College, including preservice undergraduate and postgraduate courses. a

contributions to research and curriculum development projects.

Candidates should have considerable experience of curriculum development in nursery or primary schools and must have a minimum of five years' teaching experience, including teaching experience in a school within the last twelve months. Two of the posts would be particularly concerned with courses relating to nursery or early primary stages and for these posts experience with community involvement projects would be an advantage.

Lecturers in the School of Further Education

2 VACANCIES

The School of Further Education is the National Centre for the training of Further Education Lecturers in Scotland. Applicants for these posts should possess an Honours degree or equivalent qualification in an appropriate subject and be registered or in a position to register with the G.T.C.

(a) Lecturer in Business Studies (Office Arts)

The successful applicant will be expected to have had considerable further education teaching experience in office arts and will be required to participate in the School's courses in educational methods for further education lecturers who specialise in business studies (office arts).

(b) Lecturer in Technology (Electronics)

The successful applicant will be expected to have had considerable further education teaching experience in electronics and will be required to participate in the School's courses in educational methods for further education lecturers who specialise in technology (electronics).

Lecturer in Computer Education
1 VACANCY

The Computer Education Department provides both preservice and inservice courses, including a course leading to the award of a Teaching Qualification (Secondary Education) in Computing and a GNAAG validated diploma course (jointly with Paisley College of Technology). It also operates a computing service for the colleges and schools in the West of Scotland. Candidates should have recent experience of teaching in a secondary school.

The above appointments will be from 1st September 1984, or such other date as may be mutually agreed.

The salaries for the posts will be determined in relation to the successful applicant's salaries at the time of appointment and will be on the scale £8,310 to £13,125 with 13 points, and increments of £330 approximately. (This scale is presently under review.)

Further particulars and forms of application may be obtained from The Principal, Jordanhill College of Education, Southbrae Drive, Glasgow G11 1PP. Completed forms should be returned not later than Monday 21st May 1984.

(4432)

**COLWYN BAY
LLANDRILLO TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

Required for September, 1984.

**LECTURER GRADE II
IN MOTOR VEHICLE
STUDIES**

Salary: £7,215-£11,588 per annum (under review).
Closing date: 21st May, 1984.

Application form and further particulars from Senior
Administrative Officer, Llandrillo Technical College,
Aundudno Road, Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd.
Tel: (0492) 48886.

(4500)

COLWYN BAY
COUNCIL

COLLEGES OF F.E.

KIRKLEES
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
Huddersfield Technical
College
Huddersfield
Required 1st September 1984.
To teach Government & Politics, Economics, Law, English, Mathematics, Computing and Micro-Electronics. Ref: JTC 1984. Salary: £11,500 p.a. (subject to review from 1985). Further details and application forms are available from the Principal, Huddersfield Technical College, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HU1 3RS. Tel: 0484 340000.

HEREFORD
ROYAL COLLEGE FOR THE BLIND
Further Education for the Blind (FEB) (Quoted)
Bath
Required 1st September 1984.
To teach Braille, English, Mathematics, Computing and Micro-Electronics. Ref: JTC 1984. Salary: £11,500 p.a. (subject to review from 1985). Further details and application forms are available from the Principal, Royal College for the Blind, Bath, Somerset BA1 3RS. Tel: 01225 340000.

CROYDON COLLEGE
FAIRFIELD, CROYDON CR9 1DX
Tel: 01-888 9271/6
Required for 1st September 1984, or as soon as possible thereafter.

STUDENT COUNSELLOR (LECTURER GRADE II)
To work at the College's Centre for 18-19 year old students, being established at the site of the present Heath Clark High School. The successful applicant will join an established team of Counsellors. Applicants must have a qualification in Counselling, and preferably teaching experience. The salary for this post will be in accordance with the current Barnham Further Education Award and is at present:
LECTURER I - £9,284-£10,300 p.a. including the London Weighting Allowance.
Further details and application forms may be obtained from the Personnel Section, Croydon College, Croydon, Surrey CR9 1DX, to whom completed application forms should be returned within fourteen days of the appearance of this advertisement.

WIRRAL
METROPOLITAN COLLEGE
Department of Health, Fashion and Social Studies
LECTURER I HEALTH EDUCATION
Required to teach the theory and practice of Health Education to students on NNEB and other Caring Courses.
Application forms from: Principal's Secretary, Wirral Metropolitan College, Carlisle Park, Eastham, Wirral, Merseyside L22 0AY (stamped, addressed, foolscap envelope required). Closing date ten days from appearance of this advertisement.

WIRRAL
METROPOLITAN COLLEGE
Department of Health, Fashion and Social Studies
LECTURER I HEALTH EDUCATION
Required to teach the theory and practice of Health Education to students on NNEB and other Caring Courses.
Application forms from: Principal's Secretary, Wirral Metropolitan College, Carlisle Park, Eastham, Wirral, Merseyside L22 0AY (stamped, addressed, foolscap envelope required). Closing date ten days from appearance of this advertisement.

LONDON
Inner London Education
Authority
Applications are invited for the following posts which are available from September 1984.
LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES
Two posts to teach on the following courses: Business Studies and the V.E.S. programme.
Applicants must offer more than one subject; ability to teach; a good knowledge of information processing or calculation; and a willingness to contribute to the development of the college. Successful candidates will be offered a salary of £11,500 p.a. plus London Weighting Allowance. Applications should be sent to the Principal, Inner London Education Authority, 100 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 0779 108 5000.

MANCHESTER
CITY OF MANCHESTER
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Applications are invited for the following posts which are available from September 1984.
LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES
Two posts to teach on the following courses: Business Studies and the V.E.S. programme.
Applicants must offer more than one subject; ability to teach; a good knowledge of information processing or calculation; and a willingness to contribute to the development of the college. Successful candidates will be offered a salary of £11,500 p.a. plus London Weighting Allowance. Applications should be sent to the Principal, City of Manchester Education Committee, 100 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 0779 108 5000.

LONDON
PITMAN CENTRAL COLLEGE
WANTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE for the SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND SECRETARIAL EDUCATION - a teacher of OFFICE SKILLS (including shorthand) who is also able to teach Commerce/Background to Business and Secretarial Practice. The school courses, which range from pre 'O' level to postgraduate, also offer excellent opportunities for teacher involvement in classroom office technology, and in training in word-processing in the well equipped Office Technology Centre.
Please telephone 01-837 4481 for an application form or write to:
Margo Collingbourne Beavers, Principal
School of Business & Secretarial Education
Pitman Central College
Southampton Row
London WC1B 5BX

Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley
Knowsley Central Tertiary College
(Re-advertisement)
CURRICULUM LEADER (SENIOR LECTURER GRADE) of Business and Office Studies Section
Required to join the staff of this new College which opens on 1st September, 1984.
Qualifications and experience in Modern business methods will be looked for together with an understanding of the application of new technologies to office practice. The person appointed will be one of the leaders in the development of a range of alternative student programme provisions in the business, computing and office areas.
Application forms and further particulars may be obtained by sending a r.e.s. to the Borough Education Officer, Education Office, Huyton Hey Road, Huyton, Merseyside L36 5YH to whom forms should be returned by 18th May, 1984. Previous applicants need not re-apply.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
NORTHAMPTON COLLEGE
Applications are invited for the following posts which are available from September 1984.
LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES
Two posts to teach on the following courses: Business Studies and the V.E.S. programme.
Applicants must offer more than one subject; ability to teach; a good knowledge of information processing or calculation; and a willingness to contribute to the development of the college. Successful candidates will be offered a salary of £11,500 p.a. plus London Weighting Allowance. Applications should be sent to the Principal, Northampton College, 100 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 0779 108 5000.

PLYMOUTH
COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION
Applications are invited for the following posts which are available from September 1984.
LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES
Two posts to teach on the following courses: Business Studies and the V.E.S. programme.
Applicants must offer more than one subject; ability to teach; a good knowledge of information processing or calculation; and a willingness to contribute to the development of the college. Successful candidates will be offered a salary of £11,500 p.a. plus London Weighting Allowance. Applications should be sent to the Principal, Plymouth College, 100 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 0779 108 5000.

LONDON
PITMAN CENTRAL COLLEGE
WANTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE for the SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND SECRETARIAL EDUCATION - a teacher of OFFICE SKILLS (including shorthand) who is also able to teach Commerce/Background to Business and Secretarial Practice. The school courses, which range from pre 'O' level to postgraduate, also offer excellent opportunities for teacher involvement in classroom office technology, and in training in word-processing in the well equipped Office Technology Centre.
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Margo Collingbourne Beavers, Principal
School of Business & Secretarial Education
Pitman Central College
Southampton Row
London WC1B 5BX

Applying for a job in Gwent?
The National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education is in dispute with Gwent County Council over conditions of service.
Anyone considering applying for a lecturing job in Gwent is asked to contact:
Jim Munery or Paula Lanning
NATFHE
Hamilton House
Mabledon Place
London WC1H 9BH
Tel: 01-387 6806

PORTSMOUTH
PORTSMOUTH COLLEGE
Applications are invited for the following posts which are available from September 1984.
LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES
Two posts to teach on the following courses: Business Studies and the V.E.S. programme.
Applicants must offer more than one subject; ability to teach; a good knowledge of information processing or calculation; and a willingness to contribute to the development of the college. Successful candidates will be offered a salary of £11,500 p.a. plus London Weighting Allowance. Applications should be sent to the Principal, Portsmouth College, 100 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 0779 108 5000.

PLYMOUTH
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Applications are invited for the following posts which are available from September 1984.
LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES
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WATFORD
WATFORD COLLEGE
Applications are invited for the following posts which are available from September 1984.
LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES
Two posts to teach on the following courses: Business Studies and the V.E.S. programme.
Applicants must offer more than one subject; ability to teach; a good knowledge of information processing or calculation; and a willingness to contribute to the development of the college. Successful candidates will be offered a salary of £11,500 p.a. plus London Weighting Allowance. Applications should be sent to the Principal, Watford College, 100 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 0779 108 5000.

PLYMOUTH
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Applications are invited for the following posts which are available from September 1984.
LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES
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Applicants must offer more than one subject; ability to teach; a good knowledge of information processing or calculation; and a willingness to contribute to the development of the college. Successful candidates will be offered a salary of £11,500 p.a. plus London Weighting Allowance. Applications should be sent to the Principal, Plymouth College, 100 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 0779 108 5000.

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London WC1H 9BH
Tel: 01-387 6806

BARNET
BARNET BOROUGH OF EDUCATION
Applications are invited for the following posts which are available from September 1984.
LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES
Two posts to teach on the following courses: Business Studies and the V.E.S. programme.
Applicants must offer more than one subject; ability to teach; a good knowledge of information processing or calculation; and a willingness to contribute to the development of the college. Successful candidates will be offered a salary of £11,500 p.a. plus London Weighting Allowance. Applications should be sent to the Principal, Barnet College, 100 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 0779 108 5000.

PLYMOUTH
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LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES
Two posts to teach on the following courses: Business Studies and the V.E.S. programme.
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PITMAN CENTRAL COLLEGE
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Hamilton House
Mabledon Place
London WC1H 9BH
Tel: 01-387 6806

JEDDAH

Teaching Couple

Combined salary £24,800-£32,300 pa tax free
Exceptional family benefits package

Saudi Arabian Airlines, the twelfth largest member of I.A.T.A. operates a network of routes extending from New York in the West to Seoul in the East. At our base in Jeddah we operate a school, now in its 32nd year, for over 1800 children of our expatriate employees.

The Parents Co-operative School which operates primarily to an American curriculum now seeks to recruit a British teaching couple to staff classes for British children aged 11 to 14.

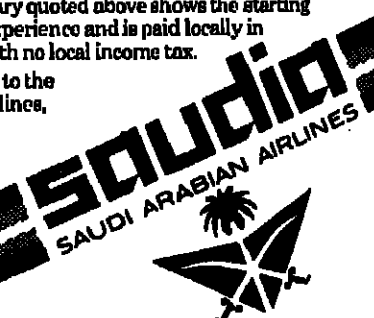
One member of the couple should teach Maths and Science, the other English and History/Geography. Both should have a degree and post graduate Certificate in Education.

We offer a highly attractive benefits package which includes:

- Free fully furnished villa or apartment in an attractive residential area. All utilities provided free.
- Superb recreation facilities with swimming pools, tennis courts and sports club.
- Subsidised education for your own children up to the age of 14.
- Free flights for you and your family to the UK.
- Worldwide concessionary tickets on most other major airlines.
- Performance related merit bonus and contract completion bonus.

These positions are open to a married couple both under 55 on a two year renewable contract basis. The salary quoted above shows the starting range according to qualifications and experience and is paid locally in Saudi Riyals (currently SR5.0 = £1) with no local income tax.

Please write with full career details to the Personnel Manager, Saudi Arabian Airlines, 506 Chiswick High Road, London W4 5RG.



OVERSEAS APPOINTMENTS

continued

INDIA

MUSCOORIE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

India

A new residential school for

foreign pupils situated in

the hills of the Western Ghats

in a beautiful area of

particular scenic beauty

and a pleasant climate

throughout the year.

International facilities

are provided for the

school. The school is

open to all nationalities

and is a non-sectarian

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Education

General Inspector

Post 16 and Further Education
Soulbury HT Group 9 £15,027-£16,281 pa

A well qualified and experienced man or woman is required for this exciting and challenging post. Nottinghamshire is expanding its support for curriculum and professional development activity in post 16 education and the Inspectorate is committed to furthering this work. Candidates are sought who can contribute to this comprehensive programme and therefore be able to demonstrate a broad range of skills and understanding in particular the concerns of the new client groups including those with special educational needs. Re-location expenses where appropriate.

Application forms and further details are available from: The Director of Education at County Hall, (see please). Closing date 18 May. Please quote ref: A12/145.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.



Nottinghamshire
County Council
County Hall West Bridgford
Nottingham NG2 7GP

Education Department

COUNTY HUMANITIES
ADVISER

Soulbury HT Group 8: £13,953-£16,189 per annum

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the above appointment which will be vacant from the beginning of the Autumn Term 1984, based at County Hall, Ipswich.

In addition to wide specialist subject responsibilities, the successful candidate will also work in the Area team as pastoral adviser to a number of primary and secondary schools. Applicants should preferably therefore have a broad experience of and interest in the full range of school curriculum activities, and a good degree in one of the main disciplines.

Application forms and further details (a.s.a. please) may be obtained from the County Education Officer, Education Department, Grimwade Street, Ipswich IP4 1LJ. Closing date: 25th May, 1984.

Suffolk County Council

Cheshire
Education Department

CHIEF ADVISER

Salary Soulbury Headteacher
Group 12-13
(£18,495-£20,700) pending pay award

The authority wishes to appoint a person of outstanding experience and ability to the post of Chief Adviser. The successful applicant will have had experience in school and college senior management posts and LEA advisory work. The position offers opportunities for:

1. Professional leadership and management of a well established advisory staff.
2. The continuing development of the county's curriculum policies.
3. The formulation of in-service policies including the design of appropriate programmes.
4. Participation in the senior management of a large and varied LEA.

Fuller details and application form obtainable from:
The Director of Education (Ref: 20/PJ)
County Hall, Chester

Closing date: 4th June, 1984.

County TVEI Co-ordinator

(HEAD TEACHER
GROUP 8)

Applications are invited for the post of County Co-ordinator for the Northamptonshire Technical and Vocational Education Initiative (TVEI) from 1st September 1984 for 4 years in the first instance.

The Manpower Services Commission have agreed to provide the Northamptonshire proposal in the second group of projects which are to admit students from 1st September 1984. The project consists of two consortia, one in Northampton and one in Wellingborough, each of three schools and a college of further education with three associate schools.

Application forms, to be returned by 22nd May 1984, and further particulars can be obtained from the TVEI Project Office, Cliftonville Middle School, Cliftonville Road, Northampton NN1 5BW. Tel: 28853.



ADMIN L.E.A.

continued

ASHFORD

LOOKING FOR A
RECRUITMENT?CONSIDER YOURSELF A
GOOD SPORTSMAN?LEAVING COLLEGE WITH
A GOOD ACADEMIC
RECORD?HOLD SOME NATIONAL
GOVERNING BODY
COACHING AWARDS?IF SO, THEN YOU COULD
BE THE PERSON WE
NEED TO JOIN THE POST
OFF.

RECREATION ASSISTANT

STOUR CENTRE

Ashford, Kent

On Salary Scale 3, £5,640

to £6,135 p.a.

We are a large multi-

functional Recreation com-

plex providing for the Re-

creation of the com-

munity. We need an

enthusiastic, energetic

young person to assist in

the Organisation, Man-

agement and Development of

the Recreation Service.

The post carries Man-

agement status and the

successful candidate will

be expected to assist in

the Education of the

community. The post

is a full time position

with a salary of £5,640

per annum plus a 10%

allowance for housing

costs. The successful

candidate will be re-

quired to assist in the

Education of the com-

munity. The post is a

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ADMINISTRATION continued

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CENTRE FOR COMMUNICATION AIDS IN EDUCATION
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
The Centre for Communication Aids in Education (C.C.A.E.) is a voluntary organisation established in 1974 to provide a service to children with communication difficulties. The Centre is based at the Oxfordshire County Council Offices, 100, High Street, Oxford OX1 1JH. The Centre is open to all children with communication difficulties, regardless of their age, sex, race, or social class. The Centre provides a range of services, including assessment, advice, and training. The Centre is also involved in research and development work. The Centre is a member of the National Association of Communication Aids in Education (N.A.C.A.E.).

The Centre will be open to all children with communication difficulties, regardless of their age, sex, race, or social class. The Centre provides a range of services, including assessment, advice, and training. The Centre is also involved in research and development work. The Centre is a member of the National Association of Communication Aids in Education (N.A.C.A.E.).

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Educational Psychologists

CROYDON LONDON BOROUGH OF
The Education Department of the London Borough of Croydon is seeking applications for the post of Educational Psychologist. The successful candidate will be responsible for providing psychological services to schools in the borough. The post is a full-time position, working 37.5 hours per week. The salary is £11,615 per annum. The closing date is 1st September 1984.

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Miscellaneous

HAMPSHIRE
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SOMERSET

EDUCATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES
Part-time agents wanted in South-West England to promote educational books and equipment. Mobility and telephone essential. Former teachers especially suitable. Write Network Educational, 3 Play Avenue, Burnham-on-Sa, Somerset. (1955) 660000

ROYAL NATIONAL COLLEGE FOR THE BLIND
(FURTHER EDUCATION FOR THE BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED) PROGRAMMER (Salary £3,300 - £4,175) For further details see entry under College of Further Education. (19574) 660000

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST
Salary: £13,188-£14,253 (subject to review) (Soulbury Scale HT-6.3-7.4) Required for 1st September 1984. The successful applicant will be based at the School Psychological Service Office, Cwmbran and will work in Central Gwent.

Applicants should have an Honours Degree in Psychology and a Postgraduate Professional Qualification. Experience with a Local Authority School Psychological Service is desirable.

Applications should be sent to the Director of Education, Education Department (TAS), Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 1TP. Tel: 01-886 4433. Ext. 2874, to whom application forms must be returned by 21st May 1984.

Education Educational Psychologists (Two Posts)
To work in South Bedfordshire and be based in Luton. Candidates should have an Honours Degree in Psychology (or equivalent), at least two years' teaching experience, and have completed appropriate postgraduate training.

Salary £8,454 - £14,253 (Soulbury 6-22) Essential User Car Allowance, Car Loan Scheme, Approved Removal Expenses Paid. Applications forms and further details from D. P. J. Browning M.A., Chief Education Officer, County Hall, Bedford, or telephone Bedford 63222 ext. 948. Closing date Monday, 21st May 1984. The Council is an equal opportunity employer.

POST 'B' FULL-TIME SOCIAL WORKER
Scale 2 £7,191-£8,430. The successful applicant will be required to work in Newport East and Caerleon, Llanmair and Caerdydd. He/she will be based at the School Psychological Office, Newport.

There will be an opportunity to take part in varied and challenging work with children, young people, families, schools and units. Possession of a current driving licence and vehicle is necessary, appropriate mileage allowances are payable for authorised journeys. Applicants should indicate the post(s) for which they are applying.

Further details and application forms are available from the Chief Executive Officer, Personnel Section, County Hall, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 2XH. Closing date: 24th May 1984.

Gwent County Council

Education School Psychological Service Senior Educational Psychologist
Soulbury H.T. Group 9 £15,027-£16,281 p.a.

We require a fully qualified and experienced Educational Psychologist for the Nottingham District School Psychological Service to be based at Mersey House. This is a new post established to share the management responsibilities for a large team of Educational Psychologists, Remedial Teachers, Social Workers and Teacher Parent Counsellors. This post will provide an opportunity for the District service to review its procedures and systems to ensure effective ways of working. Some time should be available for research as well as for the taking on of special projects at the request of the Principal Educational Psychologist. Prospective applicants (male or female) should preferably have some experience at senior level, although other relevant experience will be given careful consideration.

Retention expenses where appropriate. Informal enquiries can be made to the Principal Educational Psychologist, Mr J. J. Oliver, at County Hall, Nottingham NG2 2BQ. Further details and application forms may be obtained from the Director of Education at County Hall, Nottingham NG2 2BQ. Please quote job A12/48.

Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall, Nottingham NG2 2BQ

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
University Entrance and School Examinations Council
General Certificate of Education Examination
The council invites applications for the following appointment:
Chief Examiner For June 1985
Advanced Level
- Geography (18-19 Schools Council)

Applicants should be graduates or hold appropriate qualifications and should be under 65 with five years' recent teaching experience. Examining experience is essential. Duties include setting question papers, advising on the award of grades and the supervision of a team of examiners.

For application forms and further details write to The Secretary, University Entrance and School Examinations Council, University of London, 21, 32, Russell Square, London, WC1B 5DN. Applicants should enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Completed application forms should be returned by 1st June 1984.

JOINT MATRICULATION BOARD (Universities of Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Sheffield and Birmingham)

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (Salary Scale £6,310-£9,875 per annum)

or ASSISTANT SECRETARY Grade I (Salary Scale £6,310-£11,615 per annum)

The Board invites applications for an appointment to its staff in Manchester at one of the above grades. Appointment will be made at the grade and salary appropriate to the qualifications and experience of the person concerned and will carry full USS benefits. Applicants must be university graduates or hold an equivalent qualification.

Further details together with an application form may be obtained from the Secretary, Joint Matriculation Board, Manchester M15 6EU. Envelopes should be marked "Administrative Staff (T)". Completed application forms must be returned by 25th May 1984.

Education Educational Psychologists (Two Posts)
To work in South Bedfordshire and be based in Luton. Candidates should have an Honours Degree in Psychology (or equivalent), at least two years' teaching experience, and have completed appropriate postgraduate training.

Salary £8,454 - £14,253 (Soulbury 6-22) Essential User Car Allowance, Car Loan Scheme, Approved Removal Expenses Paid. Applications forms and further details from D. P. J. Browning M.A., Chief Education Officer, County Hall, Bedford, or telephone Bedford 63222 ext. 948. Closing date Monday, 21st May 1984. The Council is an equal opportunity employer.

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL
COVENTRY CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
LEASOWS AVENUE, COVENTRY CV3 9BH
Tel: 0203 418888
Director of Centre: Peter Isherwood, MA

Two appointments are to be made for September 1984 in order to support and develop the work of this new centre:
1. SENIOR TEACHER OF DANCE
2. SENIOR TEACHERS OF DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

These appointments will carry a Senior Teacher salary Band 6. Applicants are invited to apply for the post of SENIOR TEACHER OF DANCE or SENIOR TEACHERS OF DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES. The successful candidate will be responsible for the preparation and delivery of drama and theatre studies to pupils in the school. The candidate will also be responsible for the organisation of extra-curricular drama and theatre activities. The candidate will be expected to work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and the other members of the staff. The candidate will be expected to work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and the other members of the staff. The candidate will be expected to work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and the other members of the staff.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST
YORK
Salary £8,454-£14,253

Applicants should be qualified Educational Psychologists with an Honours Degree in Psychology, postgraduate training in educational psychology and appropriate teaching experience for this post in the Schools Psychological and Child Guidance Service to be based in York.

The duties will include work in schools and Guidance Clinics, working with established teams. The appointment carries a wide range of responsibilities in aspects of educational psychology, with opportunities for specialism. In a well co-ordinated service to be placed to respond to the Education Act 1981. The post will enable the successful candidate to develop professional skills and responsibilities in an attractive varied County.

Application forms (to be returned by 28 May 1984) and further particulars from the County Education Officer, Room 34, County Hall, Northallerton BA2 8AE. (Stamped addressed envelope please).

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
University Entrance and School Examinations Council
General Certificate of Education Examination
The council invites applications for the following appointment:
Chief Examiner For June 1985
Advanced Level
- Geography (18-19 Schools Council)

Applicants should be graduates or hold appropriate qualifications and should be under 65 with five years' recent teaching experience. Examining experience is essential. Duties include setting question papers, advising on the award of grades and the supervision of a team of examiners.

For application forms and further details write to The Secretary, University Entrance and School Examinations Council, University of London, 21, 32, Russell Square, London, WC1B 5DN. Applicants should enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Completed application forms should be returned by 1st June 1984.

ACORN COMPUTER

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

Technical and Vocational Education Initiative

Applications are invited for the following permanent appointments to commence on 1st September 1984. Salary Scale 4 (plus London Allowance).

(TVE 1) **ELECTRONICS** - Technology teacher able to teach Electronics to 'O' level and 'A' level. Practical knowledge of Microelectronics and central application essential.

(TVE 2) **BUSINESS STUDIES** - ability to teach 'British Industrial Society' course to 'O' level essential.

(TVE 3) **BUSINESS STUDIES** - ability to teach office and clerical skills essential.

(TVE 4) **SCHOOLS/INDUSTRY LIAISON** - ability to offer one of the following subject areas essential: Careers, Information Technology, Business Studies or Technology.

Following the acceptance by the Manpower Services Commission of its submission for the TVEI, Croydon is seeking to make four more Scale 4 appointments. Detailed job specifications and further particulars of the TVEI scheme are available from the Director of Education, Education Department (TAS), Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 1TP. Tel: 01-886 4433. Ext. 2874, to whom application forms must be returned by 21st May 1984.

ROCHDALE METROPOLITAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
An Equal Opportunity Employer
REQUIRED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
The Education Department of the Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale is seeking applications for the post of SENIOR TEACHER OF DANCE or SENIOR TEACHERS OF DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES. The successful candidate will be responsible for the preparation and delivery of drama and theatre studies to pupils in the school. The candidate will also be responsible for the organisation of extra-curricular drama and theatre activities. The candidate will be expected to work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and the other members of the staff. The candidate will be expected to work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and the other members of the staff. The candidate will be expected to work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and the other members of the staff.

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ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS EXAMINATIONS BOARD
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CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL
FULL-TIME DEPUTY
WARRINGTON
(2 posts)

Required for 1 September 1984. The successful candidate will be responsible for the preparation and delivery of drama and theatre studies to pupils in the school. The candidate will also be responsible for the organisation of extra-curricular drama and theatre activities. The candidate will be expected to work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and the other members of the staff. The candidate will be expected to work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and the other members of the staff. The candidate will be expected to work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and the other members of the staff.

LECTURER Technical Training

The Acorn Computer Technical Training Department provides one of the most comprehensive product training programmes for dealers, distributors and major customers of our market leading product range. Based in an attractive, rural riverside location in Maidenhead, the Department is now looking to expand its team of training professionals with the appointment of an enthusiastic and experienced lecturer to be responsible for running existing courses and the development of new ones - including Hardware Servicing and Repair and Detailed Operating Systems.

A thorough knowledge and understanding of the BBC microcomputer hardware and operating system is essential, as is a highly professional approach towards training. Our ideal applicant will have a degree in Electrical/Electronic Engineering and will now be teaching Computer Studies to adults or teenagers, or be employed as a Technical Trainer.

In addition to an excellent salary and benefits package, Acorn offers a very attractive work environment and outstanding career development opportunities for people with flair, drive and ambition.

If you are interested in this challenging and demanding role, please send your c.v. to: Peter Charlton, Personnel Officer, Acorn Computers Limited, Fulford Road, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4JN.

MISCELLANEOUS continued

CALDERDALE EDUCATION AUTHORITY
EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST
The Education Authority of the Calderdale Local Education Authority is seeking applications for the post of Educational Psychologist. The successful candidate will be responsible for providing psychological services to schools in the authority. The post is a full-time position, working 37.5 hours per week. The salary is £11,615 per annum. The closing date is 1st September 1984.

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ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

EFLL SUMMER COURSE
TEACHING 1200 - 1400
 Richmond, Windsor, Winchester, Bath, High Wycombe, Reading, Oxford, London, etc. Must be graduates with a minimum of 2 years' experience in teaching English as a foreign language. Salary £10,000 - £12,000. Details from: EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

EUROCENTRE at Lee Green, S.E. London still has vacancies for temporary summer teachers for 4 weeks from 2nd July to 4th August. Applicants must be graduates with TEFL qualification and experience. Write for details and application form to: Eurocentre, 21 Meadowcroft Road, London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

EFLL STAFF REQUIRED

EFLL is a leading international teaching organisation. We are seeking experienced teachers for our summer courses. Details from: EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

For further details please write to: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

SUMMER TEACHERS/DIRECTORS
 Graduate teachers and course directors with experience in teaching English as a foreign language. Details from: EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

English as a Second Language

OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
GRANGE SCHOOL
 Rochdale Road, Oldham

The following post is available from September 1984. The post is for a full-time teacher of English as a second language. The teacher will be responsible for the teaching of English to students of various nationalities. The teacher will also be responsible for the supervision of the students' progress. Details from: Oldham Metropolitan Borough, Rochdale Road, Oldham. Tel: 0161 275 3000. (0161) 275 3000

Appointments Wanted

FRENCH BACHELOR seeks a post in a French school. Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

GERMANY
 Piano teacher (B.Mus., B.A.) seeks a post in a German school. Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

READING
 School of Education
 The School of Education is seeking a full-time teacher of English as a second language. Details from: Reading School of Education, Reading. Tel: 01161 275 3000. (01161) 275 3000

Education Courses

GERMANY

GERMAN IN GERMANY
 Holiday courses for young people over 14 (English, Summer) intensive crash course for adults. Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

ITALY
 CENTRO D'ARTE
 Centro d'Arte is seeking a full-time teacher of Italian as a second language. Details from: Centro d'Arte, Rome. Tel: 01161 275 3000. (01161) 275 3000

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

22-27 July 1984

Designed for all interested in schools management and especially for heads and teachers working abroad. MAIN THEMES: MANAGING THE CURRICULUM; MANAGING PASTORAL COUNSELLING; LEADERSHIP AND ORGANISATION MANAGEMENT; MANAGING BASIC SKILLS TEACHING.

Selection, assessment and staff appraisal and interview techniques will be a key theme throughout the course. MAIN SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE: DR BERNADETTE WEHRLEY, (Professor of Education, California, USA); DR JIM ELLIS OF WORCESTER; ALAN BYE (Northants LEA Remedial Service); DR DAVID LANE (ILEA); RON MITSON (Principal Abraham Moss Centre, Manchester); DR ED MASON (Ohio State Commissioner on Education, USA) and many others.

For book inform etc and full details write to: Mrs Kay Griffiths, Post-Experience Courses Administrator, Management Centre, Aston University, Gosta Green, Birmingham B4 7DU. Tel: 021-359 3011

UNIVERSITY OF ASTON MANAGEMENT CENTRE
 UK's largest management centre



Tuition
 Experienced freelance/creative writing tutor elves. Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

HOME TUTORS required urgently in North East London. Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

Cambridgeshire ROMT

Tutors required, S.A. for info. Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

Personal Announcements

ALTERNATIVES FOR TEACHERS
 Full-time/part-time. Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

BANK LOANS/MORTGAGES
 2500 - 250,000 for home purchase. Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

GRAPHOLOGY for careers and personal development. Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

HOLIDAYS AND PERSONAL
 Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

YOUR PEN CAN PAY FOR YOUR HOLIDAY
 Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

WARREN RECORDING
 Offer a service cassette to your tapes at our local recording. Details from: J. Woolley, EFLL, 21 Meadowcroft Road, Lee Green, S.E. London E20 2JH. Tel: 01-552 3573. (01438) 700000

YOUR PEN CAN PAY FOR YOUR HOLIDAY
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